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Booby-trapped canteen kills soldier in Lebanon

CORP. Yotam Shauli, 19, of Rishon LeZion, was killed Friday afternoon in the security zone by a booby-trapped canteen. Another soldier was lightly wounded in the explosion.

The incident occurred near the village of Aysbiyeh, north of Marjayoun, in the eastern sector of the security zone. A Golani unit on patrol near the village

spotted a suspicious object on the road's edge. Shauli approached the object, which turned out to be a canteen. Apparently he stepped on it or touched it. The device exploded, fatally wounding him.

An army doctor treated Shauli prior to evacuation to Safed's Ziv Hospital. Shauli died several hours later.

ALON PINKAS

Shauli's funeral will be at 2:45 p.m., at the military section of the Rishon cemetery. He will be promoted posthumously to sergeant. He is survived by his parents and two brothers. The other soldier wounded in the explosion was treated locally by unit medics.

The army will investigate whether the handling of the booby-trapped canteen was according to regulations.

Soldiers later combed the area for other devices, but none were found. Army sources said last night that this is the first use of a booby-trapped device of this kind

in recent memory.

Shauli had returned from leave on Thursday, and had spoken to his mother shortly before he was killed. Friends said he loved the army and his Golani unit.

Throughout yesterday, the IDF and the South Lebanese Army exchanged artillery and mortar fire with Hizbullah strongholds in the Iklim el-Tuffah hills in the eastern

sector after a barrage of mortar fire was directed at IDF and SLA positions along the security zone's northern border.

During the exchange, an IDF soldier, Sgt. Yakir Neiduk, 20, was wounded when he was sent flying by an explosion and fell on a machine gun he was carrying. He was admitted to Haifa's Rambam Hospital with light stomach wounds.



Corp. Yotam Shauli.

PM expected to reassign Shas portfolios today

SARAH HONIG

PRIME Minister Yitzhak Rabin is today expected to reassign the interior and religious affairs portfolios, which had been held open for Shas.

The betting in the Labor Party is that the Interior Ministry will go to Police Minister Moshe Shaleh, who will hold both portfolios, and that the Religious Affairs Ministry will be given to Transport Minister Yisrael Kessner, who will also fill two posts.

Thus Rabin will be able to re-assure Shas that the portfolios are still being held in trust for it, should the bared party decide to rejoin the coalition. By turning them over to ministers who already hold other posts, and against whom Shas has raised no objection, the impression is conveyed that they are merely caretakers.

Sources close to Rabin predict that he will do this despite his meeting Friday afternoon with Communication Minister Shulamit Aloni of Meretz and Meretz Knesset faction chairman Ran Cohen, who demanded that the interior portfolio be assigned to Environment Minister Yossi Sarid.

Their plan was that Sarid would relinquish his environment portfolio and become interior minister. No minister should hold more than a single portfolio, the Meretz representatives reportedly argued, and added that other than education, Meretz has no major portfolio.

Rabin reportedly remained noncommittal and promised only to confer with them again, prior to announcing his final decision today. Meretz sources claimed yesterday that Rabin intended to them that Sarid's chances of getting the interior portfolio are good.

But Labor sources strongly dispute this, saying Rabin will now avoid the acrimony that would be involved in a major cabinet reshuffle. They say he might switch some portfolios in the summer or fall, depending on the prevailing political conditions.

He has already promised Foreign Minister Shimon Peres that his protégé, Deputy Foreign Minister Yossi Beilin, will be given a portfolio at the first opportunity.

If such an opportunity indeed presents itself, it is thought that Rabin would then also appoint either former chief of general staff Ehud Barak or Histadrut Chairman Haim Ramon to the cabinet.

Shas, meanwhile, warned Rabin not to appoint Sarid as interior minister.

"We will regard such a move as extremely hostile and that would entirely burn any remaining bridges between Labor and Shas," said Shas Knesset faction chairman Shlomo Benizri.

"We did not join the government at this time, because we have a difference with Rabin over what is called the peace process. But we have not shut the door entirely on cooperating with the government on some issues or on joining it when conditions change."

"However, if Sarid takes over interior we will realize that we are unwanted and actively join forces with the opposition," Benizri said.

Shas is fearful that its appointment (Continued on Page 2)



Foreign Minister Shimon Peres shakes hands with French Foreign Minister Alain Juppe in Paris on Friday.

Hamas threatens head of PA military intelligence

Arafat slams Israel for violating agreement

HAMAS has threatened the head of Palestinian military intelligence in response to the arrest of several members of Izzadin Kassam last week.

A leaflet distributed after Friday prayers in Gaza's Palestine Mosque - a stronghold of Hamas - threatened Brig. Musa Arafat, head of military intelligence, and accused him of trying to start a civil war by arresting Kassam members. He is not related to PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat.

Palestinian security police raided homes in the Gaza Strip last week and arrested several members of Izzadin Kassam, the armed wing of Hamas, and confiscated their weapons.

A security source said he estimated "about seven were arrested. Some of them had been wanted, others were working for them. The arrests took place across Gaza and over the last 10 days."

He said those arrested would be tried in the new police-run state security courts.

The arrests appeared to mark a

JON IMMANUEL and agencies

breakthrough in cracking the terrorist cells.

"The military intelligence recently arrested members of Izzadin Kassam and jailed them," the leaflet said. "You, Musa Arafat, and those standing behind you, should know that the martyrs of Izzadin Kassam will never stand with their hands tied and our bullets will never forgive you."

The arrests could provide the first opportunity for Yasser Arafat to order trials in the state security courts, to which Arafat named police judges with the ranks of general and colonel last week. The courts would permit witnesses to give secret evidence without fear of identification.

The leaflet condemned the security courts, saying "they were established just to try members of Izzadin Kassam and to make [Prime Minister Yitzhak] Rabin happy."

The leaflet accused Musa Arafat of being morally corrupt and

an Israeli agent.

The Kassam leaflet also made one political statement, saying Kassam was against the "Israeli gift of Jenin."

Foreign Minister Shimon Peres told Israel Radio on Friday that his impression of Thursday's Erez meeting between Rabin and Arafat was that Arafat did not reject the offer to administer Jenin, but wanted more.

Arafat on Friday prayed in the Katiba mosque near his office and told worshippers there that "I rejected Jenin because I am not a mayor. I asked Rabin, 'Do you want to withdraw?' and he did not answer, but he has to know that you are stubborn people."

Yesterday, Arafat addressed the opening session of a three-day Middle East symposium at UNESCO in Paris. He was due to meet late last night with Peres.

Arafat, in his speech, reaffirmed the Palestinians' "irrevocable strategic choice" of peace rather than conflict.

(Continued on Page 2)

Peres, Moussa pledge to defuse tension

ISRAEL and Egypt sought over the weekend to defuse the tension between them over Israel's refusal to sign the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty.

Foreign Ministers Shimon Peres and Amr Moussa met here Friday evening and decided to continue the discussions between the two countries over the disagreement concerning the NPT.

Both ministers held separate meetings earlier Friday with French Foreign Minister Alain Juppe. Juppe later pressed Peres to initiate a gesture to satisfy the Egyptians. But Peres replied that Israel had already proposed allowing Egyptian experts to visit the Nahal Sorek nuclear installation, and Cairo had rejected this.

Peres insisted that Israel cannot be expected to make territorial and security concessions and simultaneously lift the "strategic fog" over Israel's nuclear capability.

The meeting between Peres and Moussa was held to resolve the crisis provoked by recent declarations by Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin about the "ill wind blowing in the Egyptian Foreign Ministry."

Moussa considered these statements personal attacks against him, and according to Israeli sources, was "deeply insulted by Rabin's behavior."

Peres assured his colleague that, contrary to recent reports that he said were taken out of context, Rabin continues to hold

ELDAD BECK
PARIS

President Hosni Mubarak and Moussa in the highest esteem. He added that Israel's government remains fully convinced of the need for Egypt to continue to play a key role in the peace process.

After the meeting, which was held in Peres's hotel so that Peres need not violate Shabbat, Moussa refrained from reacting to Rabin's declarations, while saying that "there was no bad spirit [in his ministry]. The Egyptian Ministry of Foreign Affairs is part of Egypt's government and the policy of Egypt is being carried out and implemented by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, which will continue to work along the lines that we explained."

Peres agreed with Moussa on this point.

"There was a disagreement, as happens often between friends and friendly states," Peres told *The Jerusalem Post*. "We will be able to continue to work together, and we will find ways to overcome the problems we faced in a friendly and fair manner."

Moussa emphasized the good working relationship between himself and Peres, that will permit both sides to discuss the "serious issue of the Israeli nuclear plan, that has a very heavy bearing on the future of the Middle East and the peace in the region."

Moussa said after meeting Juppe that Cairo would continue to insist that Israel must sign the treaty, but that this did not threaten the peace between the

two countries.

"If Israel does not [sign], it will very much adversely affect the atmosphere in the region," he said, but added: "The relationship between Egypt and Israel will continue to be a relationship of peace. There is no going back on this. We shall continue to talk together."

Peres and Moussa arrived here to attend an international conference on the future of the Middle East after peace.

The conference, organized by the Jewish radio station Radio Shalom, the Egyptian daily *Al-Ahram*, and French TV network TF1, is being held under the auspices of French Prime Minister Edouard Balladur, with the participation of Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat and dozens of other Israeli, Palestinian, and Arab personalities from Jordan, Egypt, Tunisia, Morocco and Algeria.

Deputy Defense Minister Mordechai Gur said on Friday that Egyptian pressure was likely aimed at pressuring Israel into signing the NPT, while not really expecting Israel to do so.

"It could very well be that there is some sort of tactical drift that we must deal with carefully and cleverly," Gur told Israel Television. Gur defended Israel's position by saying Egypt wanted to assert its regional dominance, while Israel was ensuring its survival.

"With the Egyptians it is a struggle for hegemony," Gur said. "But if you put hegemony on one side and our existence on the other, our right is definitely to preserve a policy which enables existence."

Histadrut to declare labor dispute today over COL

MICHAEL YUDELMAN

The Histadrut is expected to declare a general labor dispute today, authorizing sanctions as a prelude to a general strike, in every workplace that does not pay its workers the 2.6 percent cost-of-living increment in February's paycheck.

Acting Histadrut Chairman MK Amir Peretz, who in Haim Ramon's absence will be running this morning's executive meeting, has instructed labor councils and workers' unions throughout the country to begin sanctions if they do not receive the increment.

An agreement on the COL increment has yet to be signed between the Histadrut and private employers, with the employers protesting the Histadrut's support of strikes at El-Op and Bank Discount.

Peretz stressed that the Histadrut has no intention of giving in to the employers' demand for industrial peace. That would prevent the Histadrut from supporting a strike if employers do not pay the COL increment.

He noted that the workers in the public sector have a right to the increment, since it is anchored in an already-signed work agreements between the Histadrut and the public employers.

Abdel-Meguid: Israel wants to be sole master of Mideast

BEIRUT (Reuters) - The head of the Arab League was quoted on Friday in the Beirut daily *al-Safir* as saying that Israel was trying to do away with the 22-member league and become "sole master" of the Middle East.

League Secretary-General Esam Abdel-Meguid, a former Egyptian foreign minister, said in

a separate interview with another Beirut daily, *an-Nahar*, that Arab countries would not renew their adherence to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty if Israel maintained its refusal to sign the document.

"Israel is working hard to eliminate the Arab League and replace it with a policy which enables existence."

(Continued on Page 2)

Yeshiva students, Arabs arrested in int'l money-smuggling ring

A RING of yeshiva students and Arab money changers that allegedly managed to smuggle at least a billion dollars to European banks has been uncovered by Jerusalem police.

Detectives arrested nine ring members last week in haredi and Arab neighborhoods of Jerusalem. Police say more arrests are expected in what they described as perhaps the biggest smuggling ring uncovered in the country's history. The ring has been in operation at least five years.

The Arab money changers would several times monthly pass millions of dollars in cash, and often also large amounts of gold, to their haredi partners, according to police.

BILL HUTMAN

The haredim - with the core made up of four yeshiva students in their thirties and forties - would smuggle the money abroad, along with cash from businessmen hiding income from the authorities.

The haredim deposited the money mainly in Swiss banks, but also in banks elsewhere in Europe, using either foreign or forged passports.

The haredim would take a percentage of the amount they smuggled as payment, police said. Jerusalem police spokesman Shmuel Ben-Ruby said the in-

come tax authorities are involved in the investigation, and are also expected to make arrests.

Dozens of businessmen used the haredim to smuggle money abroad, the spokesman said. On Wednesday, police detained yeshiva student Tov Tarabulo, 40, of the Beit Yisrael neighborhood, and money changers Samir and Tali Asila, 40 and 46, of Beit Hanina, who were remanded the next day. Six other Arab suspects detained Wednesday were later released. Two of other prime haredi suspects remain at large.

Police kept Wednesday's arrests secret until yesterday in hopes it would help them make more arrests.

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Merom wants closure to be permanent

MK Haggai Merom (Labor) is proposing that the closure remain in effect in the territories, and is demanding a Labor faction meeting to discuss the government's readiness to gradually remove it.

Israel will today begin distributing 15,000 entry permits to Palestinian workers, as was decided in last week's meeting between Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat.

Merom said that he supports making the closure permanent as part of the "separation plan" Rabin has often spoken about. He added that reopening Israeli territory to Palestinian workers and vehicles is liable to lead to more suicide attacks and undermines the safety of Israeli citizens.

"Past experience shows that every time we removed the closure, the Israeli public was exposed to attacks, and the less we enforced it, the greater the terrorist organizations' ability was to hit the State of Israel," he said.

Merom says that it would be better for Israel to financially support the Palestinian economy, to encourage the formation of jobs there.

"That's why I oppose closure

ALON PINKAS
and Itim

and lifting the closure every time there is an attack. I think the government is wrong in this decision. True, we are talking about a gradual lifting of the closure, but even it increases over time," he said. He said there were other Labor members who agreed with him.

"Whoever removes the closure takes on a heavy responsibility for the next attack," he said. He asked coalition and Labor chairman Ra'anan Cohen to bring up the matter at the next faction meeting tomorrow.

Approximately 10,000 permits will be given to the Palestinian Authority to distribute to Gazans. Only workers who are married, over age 30 and have been granted permits previously will qualify to enter. An additional 5,000 permits will be distributed by the Civil Administration of Judea and Samaria.

Army sources estimate that due to the distribution and classification process, only a few Palestinians will actually enter Israel today. On Monday, the sources estimate that all 15,000 permit-

holders will cross the Green Line.

Meanwhile, Likud MK Tzahi Hanegbi is also demanding that Rabin not allow any lifting of the closure. He said that all the security services are united in the belief that doing so will lead to increased terrorism and massacres.

A senior southern command source said yesterday that in the last two weeks there seems to have been a serious attempt by the Palestinian Authority to curb Hamas and Islamic Jihad activities in the Gaza Strip. According to the source, Fatah Hawks have joined Palestinian Police units.

"These Fatah activists know the Gaza Strip, its refugee camps and back alleys inside-out. They know who the Hamas activists are and where they stay. Hopefully, their contribution will be felt," the source said.

Former coordinator of activities in the territories Maj.-Gen. (res.) Danny Rothchild said in a Channel 2 interview Friday that only Fatah Hawks can possibly deal with Hamas.

"They know them and they know the rules of the game, certainly better than a policeman who has spent recent years in Libya, Tunis or Yemen," he said.



A visiting US sailor gets a taste of home at the newly-opened McDonald's in Haifa on Friday, as Mayor Amram Mitzna (center) and Omri Padan (left), general-manager of McDonald's in Israel, look on. (Yoni Reiz)

Four killed in weekend road accidents

FOUR people were killed and 21 injured, seven of them seriously, in road accidents over the weekend.

A 90-year-old woman, Zara Kanivesty of Hadera, was killed yesterday in an accident near the police station. It occurred when a driver pulled into the oncoming lane in an attempt to pass and hit an oncoming car, in which Kanivesty was riding.

The driver, Ze'ev Felix, 34, of Azor, and his passenger were lightly injured. Four other people in the oncoming car were also lightly injured.

Esther Dvir of Beersheba was killed and nine people were injured, three seriously, when a

jeep overturned onto a sidewalk near the hotels on Eilat's North Beach. Both jeep passengers and pedestrians were injured.

Leonid Rodinsky, 44, of Beersheba, and Naim Gargawi, 23, of the Beduin Azazma tribe, were killed early Friday morning when their trucks collided head-on on the Beersheba-Tel Shoket Road. Police said Rodinsky was speeding and apparently lost control of his truck.

Yehuda Yoel, 25, of Yehud, was seriously injured when his motorcycle crashed into a concrete divider on the Tel Aviv-Or

Yehuda road. The accident occurred when he attempted to pass a car, which apparently did not see him and started to turn left, forcing Yoel further left into the divider. Yoel was taken to Sheba Hospital.

A 70-year-old Haifa man was hurt when he was hit by an 18-year-old driver. He was taken to Ichilov Hospital in serious condition.

In the Tel Aviv area, a soldier on leave was lightly hurt in a hit-and-run accident early Friday morning; he was hit by a motorcyclist. He was taken to Ichilov

Hospital. As of noon Friday, 11 people had been killed and 51 seriously injured in road accidents last week. Two of those killed were pedestrians.

In 1994, 528 people were killed in road accidents - seven percent more than in 1993 - according to statistics released by the National Committee for the Prevention of Road Accidents at its convention on Friday. The death toll went up even though the number of accidents was down by eight percent.

The police last week suspended the licenses of 278 drivers, and issued more than 5,500 tickets, with more than 2,000 of them for speeding.

Yi'ud: PLO change in charter must be condition for talks

YI'UD is demanding that the PLO annul the parts of its charter calling for the destruction of Israel as an unequivocal condition for continuing the peace process, faction chairman Alex Goldfarb said yesterday.

"The making of peace with the PLO is necessary and correct process, whose aim is to put an end to generations of bloodshed and pain," Goldfarb said in a statement.

"However, it is inconceivable that Israel will take giant steps for peace, while the other side, the PLO, headed by Yasser Arafat, will continue to see the Palestinian Charter, which calls for the annihilation

of Israel, as the guiding principles for the existence of the Palestinian people," he said.

Goldfarb said that peace is made with enemies who want to stop being enemies, and not with those who want to continue to be enemies. The PLO should show its true desire for peace by making the changes to its charter, he said.

Goldfarb added that Yi'ud supported Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin's offer to give the Palestinian Authority administrative powers in Jenin. But he said that under no circumstances should security in Jenin be turned over to the PA until it has proved its success in this area in Gaza and Jericho. (Itim)

Special prayers held for health of Rabbi Shlomo Zalman Auerbach

WORSHIPERS in synagogues throughout the country said special prayers yesterday for the recovery of leading halachic authority Rabbi Shlomo Zalman Auerbach, 84, who was reported

in serious but stable condition last night in Jerusalem's Shaare Zedek Hospital.

Auerbach was hospitalized Thursday night after he contracted severe pneumonia and had difficulty breathing. He suffered a heart attack Friday and was transferred to the intensive-care unit.

When his condition worsened, vehicles carrying loudspeakers were sent to haredi neighborhoods in Jerusalem and Bnei Brak to announce his condition. Prayers for his recovery were

held at the Western Wall, Machpelah Cave and synagogues throughout the country. Thousands were expected to attend special prayer services at the Western Wall and the Machpelah Cave last night.

Hospital officials said hundreds of calls from throughout the world were received inquiring about Auerbach's condition.

Auerbach's rulings are accepted by all streams of observant Jews, and he has ruled on a myriad of halachic matters relating to modern technology. (Itim)

Suspected collaborator shot dead by gunmen

GUNMEN shot at the car of a suspected collaborator, Zakai Udeh, as it was traveling near Jenin on Friday afternoon, killing him, and wounding two other passengers, one seriously.

Udeh, who owns a gas station in Jenin, is believed to be a GSS informer.

The incident occurred while Udeh was driving with his brother and other relatives in a jeep with Israeli license plates.

Udeh's brother was shot in the head and

brought to Haifa's Rambam Hospital for treatment. Udeh, who was critically wounded and his son, who suffered light wounds, were brought to Ha'emek Hospital in Afula. Udeh died there yesterday morning.

Large IDF forces closed off the area and launched searches for the gunmen. A Karl Gustav rifle was found.

On Thursday night, the security forces arrested five young Hamas activists in Jenin, Palestinian sources said. They said the arrests

were part of a crackdown on Hamas members in the area since the Beit Lid bombing.

In Nablus, three border policemen suffered light wounds in a clash with stone-throwers on Friday afternoon. During the unrest, the forces used tear gas, rubber bullets and live ammunition, wounding two Palestinian youths.

South of Hebron, two Palestinian youths involved in stone-throwing at an army vehicle were shot and wounded. (Itim)

SOCIAL & PERSONAL

Mrs. Trudy Miner, President, Women's League for Israel, Mrs. Harriet Lainer, Regional President, Mrs. Carol Schwarz, Treasurer, and Mrs. Dorothy Lefter, Executive Director, on a working visit to the organization in Israel, which works in the fields of welfare, immigrant absorption, and education.

JOSE OLIVIER

née Carlson

Passed away suddenly on Friday, February 17, 1995, in Tel Aviv, surrounded by her loving family.

Painfully missed by her husband Nic and by her children and grandchildren Daryle, Jonathan, Sheila, Micah, Tali, Ella, by her stepchildren, Florie, and her many friends.

The funeral will take place today, Sunday, February 19, 1995, at 1:30 p.m., at the Ra'anana Cemetery.

Syria seeks new US ideas for more talks

DAMASCUS (Reuters) - Syria said yesterday that US calls for more talks between Syrian and Israeli ambassadors in Washington would be meaningless if the United States had nothing new to offer to Damascus.

It urged President Bill Clinton to put pressure on Israel to accept full withdrawal from the Golan Heights to break a deadlock in the negotiations.

"What is the new thing on which the dialogue should start? What is the subject of dialogue?" the government daily *al-Thawra* asked. "If America has nothing to offer there is no value for such dialogues."

Syria's Ambassador to the US, Walid Mualem, returned to Damascus last week in response to repeated US calls to resume talks with Ambassador Itamar Rabinovich, which were suspended in December.

But Syrian officials said the envoy would first hold talks with the US team supervising peace talks to see if there was anything new that could justify a resumption.

Mualem deliberately stayed back in Damascus following the December session, in which then chief of general staff Ehud Barak and his Syrian counterpart, Gen. Hikmat Sulhail, took part. Syria said the talks yielded no results.

It accused Israel of making demands that Syria could never accept, including a request to preserve its observation posts in the Golan.

UN body condemns Israel

GENEVA (Reuters) - A UN body condemned Israel on Friday for continued human rights abuses in the territories, with only the United States and Russia voting in support of Israel.

In a series of resolutions, the UN Human Rights Commission censured Israel for detaining thousands of Palestinians without holding a trial, confiscating Palestinian property and land, and expanding settlements in the territories.

It also called on Israel to end its

"illegal occupation and settlement of the Golan Heights."

Israel has been almost ritually condemned by the commission every year since 1968. In recent years, however, the US has pushed for Israel to be dropped from the commission's agenda.

Although it unanimously adopted a resolution welcoming progress in the peace process, the commission adopted three main resolutions of censure against Israel and kept it firmly on its agenda for next year.

Report: Deutsche Bank admits guilt in Holocaust

FRANKFURT (AP) - Deutsche Bank, Germany's largest commercial bank, admits guilt for ignoring the Holocaust, a newspaper said Thursday.

In a book to be released next month in conjunction with the bank's 125th anniversary, details of Deutsche Bank's relationship with Hitler's government are spelled out, the *Frankfurter Rundschau* newspaper said.

The 1,100-page book, entitled *Deutsche Bank and the Dictator*, was researched by five noted historians at the initiative of Deutsche Bank Chairman Hilmar Kopper, who reportedly ordered that none of the bank's officials should be allowed to influence

the book's contents, the newspaper said.

"With its participation in the 'Aryan policies' the bank loaded itself with a heavy moral guilt," the newspaper quotes British historian Harold James, who has written the forward to the book.

On the one hand, the bank helped Jewish enterprises, especially those who were within the borders of Germany in 1937, *Rundschau* quotes the book as saying.

But through organizing the sale of valuable property of Nazi victims, Deutsche Bank eased the way for Germany to realize its political, racist motivated goals, the report said.

ARAB LEAGUE

(Continued from Page 1)

place it with a Middle East league... she will not accept that Arabs gather without her any more." Abdel-Meguid said during a three-day visit to Lebanon.

"She is a major party in the region now and wants to strip the Arab League of its Arab identity," he added.

"This is the origin of its war on

the Arab League, because it wants to be the center of a new institution with an unclear identity so that the impression will be that Israel is the Middle East.

"Israel is trying to change the identity of the region and impose itself as the sole master because it always feels that it is a foreign body in the region," Abdel-Meguid said.

Poll puts Rabin ahead of opponents

Jerusalem Post Staff

PRIME Minister Yitzhak Rabin would win in a race against Benjamin Netanyahu and Rafael Eitan if elections were held now, according to a Dahaf poll published Friday.

It also found that a majority of Israelis support the continuation of the peace process with the Palestinians.

When asked for whom they would vote in a three-way race for prime minister, 41% said they

would vote for Rabin, 33% for Netanyahu and 14% for Eitan. Another 12% had no response.

The poll, published Friday in *Yediot Aharonot*, has a 4% margin of error.

The 508 Israelis who participated in the survey were also asked whether they favored continuing the peace process with the Palestinians. Fifty-six percent said yes, 42% said no, and 2% had no opinion.

HAMAS

(Continued from Page 1) "But the peace process today is in a dangerous and delicate phase," said Arafat, warning that delays in expanding Palestinian autonomy "could have fatal consequences and create a dangerous situation for the entire peace process."

Threats to peace included continued violence, a shortage of foreign financial aid, and frustration over unmet deadlines for elections, Arafat said.

He accused Israel of violating its September 1993 agreement with the PLO by using a policy of collective punishment, confiscating land and imposing a closure on the territories.

The closure "is aimed at starving the Palestinian people in the West Bank and Gaza," he said.

Perez, in his speech, acknowl-

edged there were disagreements, but thanked Arafat for recent arrests of suspected terrorists by the Palestinian police.

"We told the chairman that if you continue to show a dedicated attempt to reduce violence and blood, you will see how open the road is to full peace," Perez said. "Our only concern is security and nothing else."

Arafat held a late-night cabinet meeting Friday, and a statement issued afterwards called for a meeting of the PLO Executive Committee in Cairo to discuss the latest developments in the peace process.

US President Bill Clinton sent Arafat a cable over the weekend congratulating him on taking stronger steps to curb terrorism, but urged still greater efforts, Israeli Radio reported.

PORTFOLIOS

(Continued from Page 1) tees might be sacked under Sarid or any "unfriendly" appointee to its vacated ministries. It also fears that a new minister might cut off the flow of funds to Shas institutions that still come from these ministries.

Both Shabal and Kessar have received Shas approval. So has another Labor aspirant, Economics Minister Shimon Shetreet.

But Tourism Minister Uzi Baram of Labor, who wants the

religious affairs portfolio, is distrusted by Shas. It is thought that for this reason Rabin will not involve Baram in today's reassignments.

Shetreet will not get his wish because Rabin is reported to deeply dislike him.

Alon Pinkas adds

Rabin is also expected to raise for approval at the cabinet meeting his appointment for the head of the GSS.

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Convey heartfelt condolences to

Heather Rockman

Production editor of the journal

on the loss of her beloved son

DANIEL דניאל

Britain, Ireland near accord on N. Ireland

DUBLIN (Reuters) - British and Irish ministers said yesterday they had nearly completed complex new Northern Ireland peace proposals which the province's main political party rejects outright.

"There are no significant matters of substance between us," Irish Foreign Minister Dick Spring said after almost five hours of talks with UK Northern Ireland Secretary Sir Patrick Mayhew.

The two ministers said officials would be in contact over the weekend about the so-called framework document they have been drafting for two years and expected to put the draft to their respective governments for approval next week.

Spring said no further meetings between the two ministers were planned and "we expect to be in a position to put it to our governments next week."

Mayhew hinted that the only matters to be settled were ones of language and presentation. "If you are looking for some crisis, there is none," he said.

But Northern Ireland's Unionist politicians reiterated at the weekend that they would not take part in any all-party talks on the document because they fear it will pander to their Nationalist foes who seek the unification of Ireland.

Hardline Protestant leader Ian Paisley said his Democratic Unionist Party would not discuss the document and said he expected the bigger Ulster Unionist Party (UUP) to do likewise.

"We will not be at any table at which the framework document

is set out as part of an agenda," Paisley told BBC radio.

Neither Spring nor Mayhew would be drawn into speculation about a possible boycott by Unionists, who want Northern Ireland to stay British and fear the framework document threatens their cherished British sovereignty.

The document is known to propose that Britain and Ireland drop rival constitutional claims to Northern Ireland to put the onus on the 60 percent Protestant majority and Catholic minority to work out a new future in peace.

It will also propose setting up cross-border institutions to manage economic affairs but Unionists fear this will propel them into Dublin's orbit and eventually erode their Britishness.

British and Irish leaders have tried to blunt the anger of Unionists by saying that the document is only a discussion paper that will require approval by referendum and by government.

Mayhew said there had been "a lot of understandable speculation and anxiety" about the document, the fruit of more than two years complex Anglo-Irish negotiation.

But he appealed to Unionists, who have threatened to bring down Prime Minister John Major's creaking government if the plans confirm their worst fears, not to prejudice the document.

Unionists believe the plan amounts to a sell-out to Irish nationalists, and to the IRA and its political arm Sinn Féin, which seek the reunification of Ireland. The IRA declared a ceasefire last September.

Grozny residents creep back to their homes

THE people of Grozny crept back to their homes yesterday to see for the first time the devastation wrought by two months of war between Russia and Chechen rebels.

Russian and Chechen field commanders agreed earlier to meet in Grozny yesterday and exchange lists of prisoners. But there was no sign of the exchange taking place in the city.

Itar Tass news agency said a bus with Chechen prisoners left Nazran in the neighboring region of Ingushetia for Grozny but the report could not be confirmed and there was no word whether an exchange for Russian soldiers had taken place.

Chechen commander-in-chief Aslan Maskhadov said after Friday's talks the two sides had failed to agree on an exchange

of prisoners and bodies. In Moscow, President Boris Yeltsin's top aide said any talk of political negotiations on Chechnya's future was premature.

"We must first find forces which could be partners in such talks and whom people in Chechnya would trust," Sergei Filatov, head of Yeltsin's administration, told Interfax news agency.

Russian and Chechen military officials agreed on Wednesday on a ceasefire, later extended to 6 p.m. today. But the two accused each other of violating the truce.

Central Grozny, firmly in the grip of Russian forces, was quiet except for occasional detonations and bursts of small-arms fire. Some of the blasts were controlled explosions as Russian troops blew up rockets and shells

KURT SCHORK
GROZNY

left over from the fighting.

"It's been pretty quiet for more than a week. There have only been sporadic shots fired from the other side," said 21-year-old Volodya, a Russian marine.

He was part of a group from Vladivostok who held an ad hoc memorial ceremony for four colleagues killed on February 6 near the Grozny bus station - a key battlefield for weeks.

They had scrawled "To the Dead" on a wall. Four of the marines raised Kalashnikov rifles and fired a salute in the air.

Crowds of civilians moved slowly through Grozny's shattered streets in brilliant sunshine. Most were ethnic Russians although a few Chechens were also

visible. Some were returning after weeks as refugees. Others were moving from burned-out homes to shelter with relatives.

Russia sent troops to Chechnya on December 11 to crush the southern region's three-year-old independence bid and its separatist leader, Dzhokhar Dudayev.

Much of central Grozny has been destroyed. The head of Russian counter-intelligence, Sergei Stepanin, quoted by Interfax, said the city had been divided into 28 districts, each of which would be restored by one of Russia's regions using extra-budgetary means.

He did not give details but said: "Towards autumn, it will be possible to live and work in Grozny and the city will be fully restored in two to three years."

Two middle-aged Russian sis-

ters trudged along one Grozny street. They kept to the middle of the road which had been cleared of rubble. Pavements were piled with debris.

"This is the Soviet reality. We've been engineers for 25 years. This is all we have left," said one of the sisters, 51-year-old Tatyana Utkina. The pair were pushing a little cart piled with sacks of clothing and books.

"Thanks a lot to Dudayev, who's hiding his fighters in the city. If he were a real man he wouldn't be hiding behind ordinary people," she added. Dudayev is at a secret location, probably south of Grozny.

Interfax quoted a military source in Mozdok, site of Russian military headquarters, as saying Dudayev's brother and another relative had been arrested and taken to Moscow. (Reuters)

Ukraine nuclear reactor automatically shuts down

UZHNOUKRAINSK (AP) - A nuclear reactor at the Uzhnouraink power plant in Ukraine was automatically shut down after a pump failed and caused a pressure buildup in a turbine, a plant spokesman said yesterday.

The reactor was restarted yesterday after repairs on the pump. Yuri Semenets, senior duty operator at the plant, said the reactor was shut down Friday night and that there was no radiation leakage. "The incident is classified at zero on the international emergency scale," he said.

The seven-point scale, developed by the International Atomic Energy Association, classifies potential danger of nuclear accidents. Zero means no radiation and no damage to the reactor. America's Three-Mile Island accident and Chernobyl, the world's worst nuclear disaster, rated seven.

"Automatic safety systems shut down reactor No. 1 after a failure of a pump's bearing caused an increase in steam pressure in the reactor's turbine," Semenets said.

A special commission will investigate the shutdown, he said. According to Semenets, the incident was caused by "poor technical conditions at the plant, low-quality service and a lack of spare parts."

Earlier this month, a reactor at Chernobyl was shut down after an alarm signaled trouble in a pipeline carrying water that would be used as a coolant in an emergency.

Ukraine's nuclear program has been plagued by accidents, including the explosion at Chernobyl in 1986 that sent a radioactive cloud over several European countries.

Last year, the nation of 52 million people got 34 percent of its energy from 14 reactors at five nuclear power stations.



Demonstrators protesting against the building of a new highway in Glasgow get out of the way as a car they were attempting to plant on the road as an obstruction to the construction toppled over. (Reuters)

Divorce risk rises when choice abounds

NEW YORK (AP) - The risk of divorce or separation goes up for young couples in the United States if they live in an area with plenty of unmarried and available men or women, a new study shows.

That suggests many husbands and wives keep an eye out for a better partner, researcher Scott J. South, said yesterday. The more possibilities they see, the better the chance of finding someone worth leaving a marriage for.

He said he assumes unhappy marriages are especially vulnerable, but he could not rule out some effect on people quite satisfied with their marriages who happen to meet a dream partner.

South noted that a national survey found that about 15 percent of ex-wives and ex-husbands said they had been romantically involved with somebody outside the marriage before getting divorced.

Since either spouse can cause a divorce, the result suggests that at least 30 percent of divorces occur after one spouse has started an

affair, South said.

South is a sociology professor at the State University of New York at Albany. He and colleague Kim Lloyd present their study in this month's issue of the American Sociological Review.

Andrew Cherlin, a Johns Hopkins University sociologist who studies marriage, divorce and remarriage, called the study "a good piece of research that shows even married people may consider the alternatives if they're not satisfied with their partners."

"I don't think this tells us that the presence of unmarried adults is a threat to a happy marriage,"

The study dealt with non-Hispanic white people in their 20s, young enough that they had been married a relatively short time.

The early years of marriage are the riskiest for divorce, and it's not clear whether the findings would apply to people who've been married longer or belong to other ethnic groups, South said.

He and Lloyd analyzed results from a sur-

vey of 2,592 men and women who were interviewed annually from 1979 to 1985. About 22 percent of the participants divorced or became separated during that time.

Using census data, the researchers computed for each participant how many unmarried people of the same ethnic and age group were available in the general area where the participant lived. Each area was a cluster of counties designed to include where people live and work.

Researchers calculated the ratio of available men to available women, because each spouse would face competition from unmarried members of his or her own sex.

Analysis showed that the risk of divorce or separation was lowest when the geographic area had about 129 available men for every 100 available women - about the average in the study.

The risk rose by about 13 percent if the ratio grew to 162 available men per 100 available women. The same trend showed up if more women became available.

Portugal picks new leader

LISBON (Reuters) - Portugal's ruling Social Democrat Party (PSD) rejected opposition calls for early elections yesterday as it prepared to choose a new leader to replace veteran Prime Minister Anibal Cavaco Silva.

All three candidates battling to succeed Cavaco Silva as leader of the centre-right party have tabled a motion to the PSD's three-day congress in Lisbon expressing confidence in the government and rejecting early elections.

Cavaco Silva announced last month that he was stepping down as PSD leader and prime minister, but the 55-year-old economics professor is widely expected to stage a political comeback by running for president in January 1996.

Foreign Minister Jose Manuel Durao Barroso, 38, and Defense Minister Fernando Nogueira, 44, are the frontrunners to succeed Cavaco Silva as PSD leader and steer the party into parliamentary elections due in October.

Former secretary of state for culture Pedro Santana Lopes, 38, is also running for the leadership, which will be decided by a secret ballot of the 1,030 congress delegates today. Cavaco Silva, who brought

Portugal 10 years of political stability, economic reform and prosperity, plans to stay on as prime minister until parliamentary elections due in October.

But his arch-rival, socialist President Mario Soares, is under pressure from the opposition socialist and communist parties and some business leaders to call early elections to end political uncertainties created by the change in PSD leadership.

Durao Barroso has promised a new more dynamic approach to national problems, including a slow economic recovery and a creaking social welfare system, if he wins the PSD leadership.

All opinion polls published so far show the fresh-faced foreign minister, who is a committed pro-European, to be more popular in the country as a whole than Nogueira.

Durao Barroso has used these polls to argue that he is the best placed candidate to lead the PSD to a fresh victory over the centre-left Socialist Party of Antonio Guterres in what promises to be a difficult election.

"It is no use winning the congress if you lose the country afterwards," he told the party Congress on Friday night.

Poland defies Russia over NATO

WARSAW (Reuters) - Polish President Lech Walesa, in a blunt rebuff to Kremlin leader Boris Yeltsin, has told Russia that Poland would press for NATO membership whether Moscow wanted it or not.

Despite public disagreement on the issue, the two countries signed an accord yesterday on building the Polish section of a major pipeline to bring gas from Siberia to Western Europe.

Taking a clear stand on NATO, Walesa told visiting Russian Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin: "You know our stand: we will strive to join NATO and we are not going to ask Russia about it."

Walesa's comments, distributed to reporters by the Polish president's office, came less than two days after Russian President Boris Yeltsin restated firm opposition to any expansion of the Western military alliance into eastern Europe.

Walesa made clear what Poland, dominated by Moscow for most of the last two centuries, thought of the matter.

Its desire for membership of the Western alliance was not directed against Russia or its interests, Walesa told Chernomyrdin. But Poland would not back down.

As if to underline his stance, Polish acting defense minister Jerzy Milewski clinched an agreement in Washington on Friday on expanded defense co-operation with the United States. Washington said it was ready to sell advanced weapons such as F-16 fighters to Poland and some other ex-Soviet bloc states.

NATO Secretary-General Willy Claes said on Friday the alliance was not out to isolate Russia but would not give Yeltsin a veto on its enlargement policy in Eastern Europe.

In Warsaw yesterday, Chernomyrdin's two-day visit was crowned by the signing of a protocol allowing work to start on the \$2.5 billion Polish section of the pipeline bringing gas from Siberia's Yamal peninsula to Poland and on to Germany.

"This agreement has enormous significance for Poland, for Russia, and for Western Europe," he said after the ceremony.

The pipeline, to be ready by 2010, is expected to carry 67 billion cubic metres of gas a year.

Chernomyrdin yesterday restated Moscow's views over NATO when he met Jozef Oleksy, the Polish parliament's lower house speaker who is trying to form a cabinet to replace that of Prime Minister Walde-

mar Pawlak, who decided last week to quit. "We do not support a rapid expansion of NATO," a Polish communiqué quoted Chernomyrdin as telling Oleksy, adding there should be a joint system of security in central and eastern Europe rather than one which created new divisions.

But during his trip he stressed a pragmatic line, saying political differences should not harm economic ties.

"We cannot choose our neighbours, but we can try to be good neighbours," Oleksy said after a meeting which he described as very frank and touching on difficult issues.

Washington - Capital in Crisis

ANALYSIS
DAVID BRISCOE

THE world's wealthiest nation is governed from a city that is crime-ridden, socially divided and broke.

Washington, often seen as a beautiful backdrop to political events, is home to some of America's most powerful and most down-trodden.

It is a city whose desperately poor, largely black, residents voted to return a three-term Mayor Marion Barry to office after he served a prison term on cocaine charges, while many of its white residents reviled him.

And it is a city now managed by a US Congress whose new Republican leaders vowed to get government off people's backs but seem eager to tackle the capital city's problems.

The District of Columbia, dubbed the "dysfunctional district" by the newsmagazine US News and World Report, has a unique political status. It is administered by an elected city council and mayor who answer directly to Congress rather than any state government.

Even though their lives are more directly affected by Congress than those of any other Americans, Washington residents are under-represented in the US Senate and

have only a nonvoting delegate in the House.

The city nestled along the Potomac River is actually three cities.

One is the city of monuments, government buildings, embassies and office buildings that make Washington the seat of the world's remaining superpower and a major tourist attraction.

Complementing the official city is the wealthy one inhabited by mostly white residents who comprise a good share of the nation's social elite.

The third is the larger city of mostly black, poor people living in rundown neighborhoods being abandoned by more prosperous blacks for the wealthier suburbs of Maryland or Virginia.

Murder, drug abuse, poverty, racial tension and financial turmoil have plagued the nation's capital city for decades. But now the situation seems more dire.

Police officers are being shot, guns are found in schools and the murder victims are younger and younger.

On top of that, the city's deficit,

which stood at \$500 million in January, is now estimated to be about \$722 million.

Last week, the influential Moody's Investors Service lowered the rating of the district's general obligation bonds to "junk bond" status.

That will make it harder for the city to raise money for revitalization projects, like a new sports arena local officials fought hard for.

Eleanor Holmes Norton, the district's Democratic voteless voice in Congress, proposed Friday to put the city's finances under the control of a federally appointed panel.

Republicans blame Washington's predominantly Democratic officials for overspending. While Mayor Barry and other city officials blame the crisis on the limits Congress puts on their taxing powers.

All those monuments, federal buildings and embassies and most of the people who work in the city are beyond the reach of city tax collectors. Sixty percent of Washington's workers live in Maryland or Virginia suburbs and pay no district income taxes.

(AP)

Mexican troops move deep into rebel territory

RANCHO YAXOLOB (AP) - Only three days after the president said was trying to avoid confrontations with rebels, Mexican troops began moving deeper into formerly rebel-held territory in eastern Chiapas state.

The movement came a week after President Ernesto Zedillo ordered thousands of troops to encircle the area that had been a base of support for the rebel Zapatista National Liberation Army.

Two armored vehicles with 90-mm cannons, eight Humvee jeeps and four large troop carriers were

seen leaving the nearby village of Lazaro Cardenas Friday. Soldiers said they were headed to Venustiano Carranza, about 8 km deeper into the zone.

"This is still Zapatista territory," a bespectacled commander, who would not identify himself, said as he waved to the mountains above this rolling valley. "They're all up there. If we leave, they'll be right back down."

In a communiqué Zapatista leaders repeated their stance: They want to renew peace talks, but the army's presence in the mountains is an obstacle.

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Hillary Clinton re-emerging on public scene

HILLARY Rodham Clinton is emerging from months of self-imposed exile from the limelight, offering a glimpse of the kind of first lady she now intends to be.

Demonised by critics during the November congressional races, Mrs Clinton has been uncharacteristically subdued since the election as she and President Bill struggled to come to terms with a Congress in Republican hands.

Aides to the first lady have been fending off questions about her future role – unwilling to say just how Mrs. Clinton will proceed now that she no longer serves as the administration's chief advocate on health care reform issues.

Mrs Clinton brushes aside thoughts that anything is different, saying: "The stories come and go and I just remain the same."

"I'll do whatever I can to help the president fulfil his visions for the country, work hard for what he believes will help America," she said.

Despite her protests, Mrs Clinton's tone is far different from the feisty fighter who challenged drug companies and political opponents who stood in the way of her health reform proposals.

Insiders leave no doubt that in terms of influence, the first lady still has the first word when it comes to the president – and that when she talks, he listens.

LAURENCE McQUILLAN
WASHINGTON

Her public role, however, is evolving. She is beginning to venture out onto the public stage again – in recent days granting interviews to such news organisations as Reuters, US News & World Report and The Washington Post.

Mrs. Clinton is making it clear she intends to continue to be involved in health care matters – but not as the person shaping policy.

Instead, she will be pointing out some of the problems that she feels should not be ignored, like the need for older women to have mammograms to detect breast

cancer. "Part of the reason that I chose to get involved in this is because it grew so naturally out of all the work I've done on health care," she said during her interview with Reuters.

"It was a problem that I could see and it struck me as one that there should be some solutions for," she said. "It was a natural outgrowth of what I had been doing."

In a related area, she also is becoming involved in the issue of the so-called "Gulf War syndrome," an ailment that has been striking veterans who served in the war against Iraq.

"There's a full plate of activities that I care about," she said. Among the items being served

up on her plate are morsels taken from the menu of past first ladies.

On Friday afternoon, Mrs. Clinton took reporters on a mini-tour of a renovated and refurbished Blue Room of the White House and showed them new carpeting for the East Room.

It was the kind of scene from the past that prompted one reporter to ask the wife of the 42nd president which of her predecessors she admired the most.

"Dolly Madison," Mrs. Clinton said, singling out the wife of President James Madison, the fourth to serve as president. "She had a lot of spunk."

Asked if she thought Americans admired that trait in a first lady, Mrs. Clinton smiled and said: "I hope so." (Reuters)

Ferguson convicted of NY subway massacre

MINEOLA, N.Y. (AP) – In a courtroom packed with survivors of his attack and families of his victims, the man accused of gunning down six people on a commuter train listened impassively as the jury returned the verdict even he expected:

Guilty. Guilty. Guilty. Guilty.

A smattering of applause greeted the first guilty verdict Friday night, and the courtroom erupted in cheers when a handcuffed Colin Ferguson was led out by court officers. Jury foreman Delton Dove sat in the jury box, crying and clapping his arms.

Ferguson, a Jamaican immigrant, was convicted on six murder charges, 19 attempted murder charges, two counts of weapons possession and a single count of reckless endangerment. He faces life in prison and will be sentenced March 20.

"I'm sure he's suffering now and that makes me feel good," said Robert Giugliano, a passenger who was shot point-blank in the chest but recovered to testify against Ferguson.

Ferguson, armed with a 9mm semi-automatic pistol, walked down the aisle of a crowded Long Island Rail Road train on Dec. 7, 1993, firing randomly at commuters. He killed six and wounded

19; the killing spree ended only when Ferguson, attempting to reload, was tackled by passengers.

His legal adviser, Alton Rose, said Ferguson was "unfazed" by the verdict and surprised only by how long it took the jury to deliberate – about 10 hours.

The conviction ended an often surreal three-week trial in which Ferguson refused his lawyers' advice to plead insanity and instead conducted his own bizarre defense.

He claimed a white man stole his automatic weapon and opened fire while he slept; tried to subpoena President Clinton and ex-Governor Mario Cuomo; and announced there was a murder conspiracy against him that was linked to the prison slaying of multiple murderer Jeffrey Dahmer.

His defense consisted of a single witness – a Nassau County homicide detective already called by the prosecution. In his closing argument, Ferguson accused the surviving victims of conspiring with police to implicate him.

All but two of the 19 surviving victims testified against Ferguson. The first person shot on the train, Maryanne Phillips, coolly told him during the trial, "I saw you shoot me" – a scene that was repeated over and over in the Long Island courtroom.

Court to replace Jewish counsel in New York terror trial

MARILYN HENRY
NEW YORK

A NEW lawyer will be appointed for the man accused of masterminding the World Trade Center bombing because of personal differences with the court-appointed Jewish lawyer, a federal judge says.

"The potential problems relate to private matters that I am not going to discuss," the lawyer, Abraham Moskowitz, told reporters after it was announced that he would no longer defend Ramzi Ahmed Yousef.

"What I can tell you is this – we got along," Moskowitz said. "I was able to provide him with my best advice despite the differences in our backgrounds."

Moskowitz, who last week was randomly chosen from a pool to represent Yousef, is a 1977 college graduate of Yeshiva University. Pressed about whether he was leaving the case because he is Jewish, Moskowitz said, "That's a fair statement."

US District Court Judge Kevin Duffy said he thought it might be "inappropriate" for Moskowitz to defend the Iraqi-born Yousef.

"There might be some suspicion, some suggestion, that he will do less than a professional job and I don't want to take that chance," the judge said. He would not elaborate.

In an interview with *The Jerusalem Post* last week, Moskowitz, a former federal prosecutor, hinted that his representation of Yousef might be limited to a "plea to the bar."

"If I continue with this case, which is a decision Mr. Yousef and I will be making, then I will do my job [in the legal] system professionally," he said.

Yousef, 27, was arrested last week in Islamabad, Pakistan, and turned over to US authorities who brought him to New York to stand trial for the bombing.

The attack on the Trade Center is alleged to be linked to a broader "war of urban terrorism" against the US in part because of its support of Israel.

Sheik Omar Abdel-Rahman and 10 others are on trial in federal court in Manhattan on conspiracy charges related to the Trade Center bombing.

Policeman denies he is suing queen over fall

LONDON (Reuters) – A policeman who fell while on guard duty at Queen Elizabeth's Windsor Castle yesterday denied a newspaper report which said he was suing the British monarch for £250,000 (\$394,600) compensation.

Roger Mathastain, 45, agreed he was injured after falling into a hole left by workmen while patrolling the castle at night.

But he described the rest of the report in the *Sun* newspaper as "a figment of the imagination."

"Don't you think that if I was in the process of suing the queen my solicitors would have told me?" Mathastain told Britain's Press Association news agency. "I am not aware of any high court writ being issued."

Mathastain, who left his post last year, said he was seeking some form of redress for his injuries but added: "There is no way we are even close to suing the queen."

Latest French opinion poll says Balladur's popularity declining

PARIS (Reuters) – A fresh opinion poll yesterday showed a slump in the popularity of French Prime Minister Edouard Balladur, the presidential frontrunner, as the election campaign hit full swing.

The survey, to be published today in the weekly *Journal du Dimanche*, said 46 percent of voters were satisfied with the premier's policies, a drop of nine percentage points in a month.

It was in line with other opinion polls this week which saw Balladur's lead narrowing and injected uncertainty into the race for the April 23-May 7 election to succeed Socialist President Francois Mitterrand.

The campaign has hit full swing, with Paris Mayor Jacques Chirac yesterday unveiling an ambitious program to try to outshine Balladur who presented his last Monday.

Challenger Chirac, speaking to 10,000 cheering supporters, cast himself as a man of change against Balladur's "immobility."

The conservative ex-premier mixed left with right-wing ideas, making employment his top priority and proposing to cut payroll taxes to create jobs and raise wages to boost growth.

The program was hailed by his supporters as bold and far-sighted and derided by opponents as wishful thinking.

It signalled the start of an all-out offensive by Chirac, at his best in campaigning, against Balladur, a patrician ill at ease with electioneering.

The popular daily *Le Parisien* said Chirac wanted to appear as a leader and cast his fellow-Gaullist rival as a mere manager.

"France is going badly," Chirac said in a slap at Balladur, a former friend who likes to say that "France is going better" after the deepest recession since World War II.

Balladur has been consistently leading the race but opinion polls this week showed Socialist candidate Lionel Jospin closing in with Chirac remaining in third position.

African leaders fail to arrive for Burundi summit

BUJUMBURA (Reuters) – A regional summit on central Africa's refugee crisis was cancelled yesterday because none of the invited government leaders showed up, a senior UN official said.

No head of state had flown into Burundi's capital Bujumbura – still closed down by a general strike while the country searches for a new prime minister – by early yesterday and the UN official said the summit was off and no new date had been fixed.

"The initiative has to come from within and, although the UN was willing to support the meeting, there has proved to be insufficient initiative," said Abdul Kabila, executive director of the UN Assistance Mission in Rwanda (UNAMIR).

Diplomats had earlier questioned the value of a summit which missed a similar summit in the Kenyan capital of Nairobi in January. The presidents of Rwanda, Zambia, Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania had also been invited.

African officials had no immediate comment on why the heads of state had failed to arrive in Bujumbura where the government is in crisis.

Shooting broke out and hand grenades exploded in Bujumbura after Prime Minister Anatole Kanyenkiko resigned. But no casualties were reported and residents said the violence was no more than normal in the city which has been under dusk-to-dawn curfew since December to curb ethnic feuding between the majority Hutus and rival Tutsis.

Central Africa's latest refugee crisis began last April when the presidents of Rwanda and Burundi were killed on returning to their home countries. Their plane was shot down as it came into land.

A three-day conference earlier this week in Burundi on the 3.8 million refugees and displaced people in the region agreed on a plan hailed by the UN refugee agency UNHCR as a key document.

In a rousing speech met by applause at the final session, Kanyenkiko said it was the people's responsibility to avert another Rwanda and new exodus.

Kanyenkiko resigned on Wednesday saying he had lost support from his Uprona party. Party leaders held talks early yesterday but did not produce a nomination for the job.

On Friday, the refugee conference sent a note of support to Burundi's moderate President Sylvestre Ntibunganyanya, whose coalition has so far also been backed by the army, as a sign of international support for his efforts in rebuilding Burundi.

The opposition has closed down the capital and much of the country for four days to press for his resignation.



Pedestrians make their way across three bridges that span the Sarajevo's besieged Mijacka River. The middle bridge is the one on which Austro-Hungarian Archduke Franz Ferdinand was assassinated by Bosnian Serb nationalist Gavrilo Princip on June 28, 1914, the act which led to the outbreak of World War I. (Reuters)

Serbs vow to fight on for 'Greater Serbia'

BELGRADE (AP) – Russia's foreign minister met Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic yesterday to discuss ways of ending more than three years of bloodshed in former Yugoslavia.

After arriving in Belgrade Friday evening, Kozirev said he would discuss several ideas for settling the conflict. But he denied he had come to present Milosevic with the latest international plan.

Russia, the United States and Europe are proposing an easing of trade sanctions if Milosevic, considered the region's power broker, agrees to recognize independent Bosnia-Herzegovina and Croatia.

That would work against efforts by Serbs in Croatia and Bosnia – whom Milosevic has backed in the Balkans war – to gain international recognition and unite territory they hold with Serbia.

Serb leaders from Croatia and Bosnia vowed never to give up their dream of a greater Serbia.

"We will do everything to ensure that

there are no borders dividing the Serbian people," Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadzic said in a Friday television broadcast.

"We are absolutely convinced that we are fighting a battle for the entire Serbian people,"

Croatian Serb leader Milan Martić told the same talk show he was sure of Bosnian Serb military aid if warfare erupts anew in Croatia.

Croatia has said it will not prolong the mandate of 12,000 UN peacekeepers acting as a buffer between Croatian government and Serb forces. UN officials fear renewed fighting once the peacekeepers leave.

Serbia, the main component of what remains of Yugoslavia, has kept silent on whether it would get involved in a new Croatian war.

The Yugoslav army backed a Serb rebellion in Croatia in 1991 against the republic's decision to secede from

Yugoslavia. Serbs captured one-third of Croatian territory and have rejected a peace plan that would deny them independence but give them considerable autonomy.

In Bosnia, Serbs hold 70 percent of the territory and have rejected a separate peace plan that would reduce their holdings to 49 percent with the rest going to a Moslem-Croat federation.

If Milosevic accepts the latest proposal on Serbian recognition of the former Yugoslav republics in their original borders, this would put pressure on Serbs in Bosnia and Croatia to reconsider the peace plans.

Clashes between Moslem-led government forces and soldiers loyal to a renegade Moslem leader flared yesterday in northwest Bosnia's Bihac enclave, UN officials said.

UN spokesman Maj. Herve Gourmelon said it appeared government troops had punched a hole through the rebels' frontline positions, and that the rebels had launched a counter-offensive.

Ecuador, Peru sign peace treaty in Brasilia

QUITO (AP) – Ecuador and Peru signed a peace accord Friday aimed at ending their three-week border war and starting talks to resolve the decades-old quarrel.

The agreement, signed in Brazil's capital, Brasilia, calls for demilitarizing the disputed 78-km stretch near the Cenepa River in the Amazon jungle.

Military observers from Argentina, Brazil, Chile and the United States are to be based in the areas of greatest tension for 90 days, possibly longer.

The agreement also commits

the two governments to negotiate a permanent solution to the border conflict, which has been unresolved since 1941.

At least 49 soldiers have been killed and 100 wounded since Jan. 26 when the fighting reignited over the unmarked territory 350 km south of Quito and 950 km north of Lima. Peru's capital.

A proposal calling for the immediate but gradual withdrawal of all troops from the region had been supported by Peru, but had been opposed by Ecuador.

Ecuadorian President Sixto

Duran-Ballen – who used the slogan: "Not one step backward," throughout the conflict – had previously said he would not agree to demilitarization in the region.

Former Ecuadorian President Rodrigo Borja called the agreement an unacceptable step backward for his country.

"I have my reservations. This agreement, this cease-fire, signifies a step backward, which for me is unacceptable," he said in Quito.

Now the country needs to look at "where we were and where we are stepping back to," said Borja,

who was president from 1988 to 1992.

The territorial dispute is felt much more deeply by Ecuadorians, who refer to it as an "open wound." They view Peru as an aggressor nation and cannot forget Ecuador lost its claim on a huge swath of Amazon territory in a war with its big neighbor in 1941.

The agreement calls for Ecuadorian soldiers to move to their base of Coangos and for Peruvian forces to go to Observation Post One, known by its Spanish acronym PVI.

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PARIS (Reuters) – A fresh opinion poll yesterday showed a slump in the popularity of French Prime Minister Edouard Balladur, the presidential frontrunner, as the election campaign hit full swing.

The survey, to be published today in the weekly *Journal du Dimanche*, said 46 percent of voters were satisfied with the premier's policies, a drop of nine percentage points in a month.

It was in line with other opinion polls this week which saw Balladur's lead narrowing and injected uncertainty into the race for the April 23-May 7 election to succeed Socialist President Francois Mitterrand.

The campaign has hit full swing, with Paris Mayor Jacques Chirac yesterday unveiling an ambitious program to try to outshine Balladur who presented his last Monday.

Challenger Chirac, speaking to 10,000 cheering supporters, cast himself as a man of change against Balladur's "immobility."

The conservative ex-premier mixed left with right-wing ideas, making employment his top priority and proposing to cut payroll taxes to create jobs and raise wages to boost growth.

The program was hailed by his supporters as bold and far-sighted and derided by opponents as wishful thinking.

It signalled the start of an all-out offensive by Chirac, at his best in campaigning, against Balladur, a patrician ill at ease with electioneering.

The popular daily *Le Parisien* said Chirac wanted to appear as a leader and cast his fellow-Gaullist rival as a mere manager.

"France is going badly," Chirac said in a slap at Balladur, a former friend who likes to say that "France is going better" after the deepest recession since World War II.

Balladur has been consistently leading the race but opinion polls this week showed Socialist candidate Lionel Jospin closing in with Chirac remaining in third position.

Rehab center brings addicts 'back to life'

JUDY SIEGEL-ITZKOVICH

ON a dead-end road in the picturesque village of Lifa, on Jerusalem's western edge, there is a renovated Arab house with locked gates.

These are the premises of the Lifa Drug Rehabilitation Center, which is anything but a dead end.

If anything, it's a crossroads for addicts during their month-long stay, when they either learn to do without heroin, cocaine and other hard drugs and rediscover their humanity, or doom themselves to a truncated life of crime, loneliness, disease and degradation.

Opened nearly two years ago by the Jerusalem Anti-Drug Association and run with financial support from the Municipality and the Health Ministry, the 16-bed facility is the only live-in drug detoxification center in the city.

Nearly 400 addicts from the Jerusalem area and a few from other parts of the country have been through Magal (the center's Hebrew acronym). But not all were successful. Of those who were accepted into the program, 85 dropped out of their own volition, and 24 were kicked out because they violated the strict rules barring drug and alcohol use, sex, and verbal or physical violence inside its gates.

"We are an uncommon facility," said Moshe Kron, Magal's director, during a tour by Health Minister Ephraim Sneh at the end of January.

"We don't hand out punishments or apply sanctions, but if the rules are violated, the participant must leave."

Another unusual policy is to keep addicts on their feet throughout the day. "This isn't a hospital where patients are detoxified in their beds. They're up and around from the very first day," Kron explained. "Even those suffering from intense physical withdrawal lie on mattresses and participate in group therapy sessions."

Magal has no hired cleaning workers, cooks or handymen, he told the minister. "Our participants do all the work that keeps the place running, under the close supervision and care of our doctors, psychiatrists, social workers and therapists." The patients are men and women, Jews and Arabs.

Kron added: "We know most addicts would sell their mothers for another batch of drugs. But we look for positive forces in all our patients and work to enhance them."

Most of the addicts were hooked as

teenagers and had weak verbal skills. Individuals who are used to "ending for themselves and feeding their drug obsession, they must learn how to interact in group therapy. Other activities include art and music classes, which are popular parts of their day. Drawings of sad, pained faces adorn the high-ceilinged club room.

IN ONE group session, M. sat with his coat completely covering his head. The other participants objected, arguing that his behavior demeaned them; some said he reminded them of a police investigation.

But the therapist thought M. was non-verbally expressing his difference – as if he weren't one of those addicts with a problem. The group leader was ready to let him be; the others insisted he take off his coat.

In the end, he explained that he didn't want to give up drugs, but had "no choice." He took off the coat and rolled it up into a ball, which he held tightly to his chest like a shield. After expressing his anger and frustration, he gradually agreed to sit like everyone else.

Addicts are referred to Magal by the municipal welfare department, the youth department, the probation service and other agencies. The average age is 35 – most of them have been taking hard drugs for a decade or two and have tried several times to "get clean."

Kron explained that, contrary to ordinary diseases, in which early detection and treatment increase the cure rate, the opposite is true in drug rehabilitation. The longer they have been addicts, the more their health and family life deteriorate and the more incentive they have to quit. But often, reaching the bottom of the pit is not enough reason to try to climb back up. Twenty-five men and five women have been through Magal a second time after returning to drugs after their first detoxification.

The women usually arrive in much worse condition, mentally and physically, than the men, said Kron. "Some were prostitutes; they are more prone to psychiatric disorders; they come drained of strength."

As women are more likely to drop out of treatment, establishing a national women's center for drug detoxification that specializes in their needs might be of help, he said.

Within two weeks, the addicts lose their



Drugs left in the street attest to their prevalence. Addicts spend time at the Lifa Drug Rehabilitation Center to break their habits. (Hanoach Guttmann)

physical dependence on drugs, but it takes much longer to change their mind-set and their life-style. After a month at Magal, they may get outpatient help at the Jerusalem association's rehabilitative day center, open five days a week between 8 a.m. and 3 p.m. Group therapy, preparation for work, sports, art therapy, parenting groups and vocational training are available, as are tours in and around Jerusalem.

D., a former addict from Gilo who now works as a counselor at Magal, recalls that his month of detoxification there "helped me learn to accept reality and take responsibility for myself. It gave me a feeling of self-worth." Being isolated and surrounded by the trees and beautiful scenery of Lifa also made him "feel like part of the world for the first time."

A., an Arab from Beit Hanina who said he took drugs for 33 years, is also a counselor. "I learned what it means to come on time to work and to worry about my seven children; an addict has no concept of time or of others."

S., a 42-year-old patient who had taken

drugs for 25 years, said he was physically and emotionally "destroyed" when he reached Magal. "I had only two red lines I didn't cross: I never killed anybody, and I never prostituted myself for drugs. I did everything else."

D., who has two brothers who are also addicts, complained that, as a hepatitis B carrier, he had already been rejected by treatment communities outside Jerusalem for further care after his discharge from Magal which was coming up in a few days.

Sneh, insisting there was no reason for this rejection, promised to investigate immediately. But more than two weeks later, the ministry spokeswoman was unable to say what had been done.

O., a divorced woman who had tried to give up drugs four times, told Sneh she had two children in a boarding school whom she saw once a week. "I've got to see them, but it's hard to answer their questions about what I've done to my life. Now I feel I'm getting my life back as a gift. But even six months clean, it's hard to take drugs completely out of my head."

Don't use sleeping pills for too long

RX FOR READERS

Post Health Reporter

I've been told that taking sleeping pills over a long period causes them to be much less effective and even makes it difficult to fall asleep. Is this true? H.L., Jerusalem

Prof. Haim Belmaker, chief of psychiatry at Ben-Gurion University of the Negev Medical School and an expert in psychopharmacology, comments:

Today's sleeping pills are very useful and helpful, and are much safer than the previous generations of sleeping pills.

These pills – used by two-thirds of the adult population and available only on prescription – can be habit-forming and should never be used for an unlimited amount of time.

The maximum is daily for four to six weeks or two or three times a week for the equivalent number of pills over a longer period.

Sleeping pills consist of chemical neurotransmitters that work on specific receptors in the brain. But after prolonged use, the receptors adapt (or "develop tolerance") to the chemicals.

Thus, with prolonged use, people may begin to sleep poorly or even suffer from insomnia, because the pills disrupt rapid-eye-movement (REM or dream) sleep. They should stop taking the pills gradually. When they do, their "tolerance" will disappear, and they may resume taking them, but only intermittently.

Red wine is said to reduce the danger of heart attacks. Do grape juice and white wine have the same effect? T.Z., Netanya

Prof. Dan Tzivoni, head of cardiology at the Jerselion Heart Center in Jerusalem's Shaare Zedek Hospital, replies:

Research suggests that red wine may be effective in increasing the amount of beneficial high-density lipoprotein (HDL) and lowering the amount of harmful low-density lipoprotein (LDL) in the blood.

There are reports that grape juice could be a replacement for red wine and white wine may be of some help, but these have not been proven scientifically.

Researchers are still not sure what substance in the wine is responsible for this effect; it may be

in the skins of certain types of grapes. But it is difficult to conduct serious research, because there are so many varieties of grapes and wines.

One would have to isolate certain components of each type, and even then very large matched groups of volunteers would have to be studied over many years to note any differences. As a result, the only alternative is to compare heart-disease rates in various countries where wine drinking is more or less common.

Is it dangerous to stand in front of an operating microwave oven? J.R., Kibbutz Ramat Hakovesh. Dr. Ehud Ne'eman of the Environment Ministry's department of radiation safety comments:

If a microwave oven is not broken, there is no danger. A copper screen inside the glass of the door halts all waves emitted by the oven; waves escape only if there is a defect in the screen or if the door does not close properly.

Before or just after buying a microwave oven, make sure it meets our standards or has been examined by one of the 30 licensed testing companies.

The oven should be tested every three to five years. If there is a leakage, one of these companies – or the importer of the oven, if it is still under guarantee – should fix it. Our studies found that 1 to 2 percent of microwave ovens leak. We strongly discourage consumers from depending on do-it-yourself tests for microwave emissions using plastic cards or other home devices; these are not reliable.

Anyone exposed to microwave radiation from a short distance may develop cataracts in his eyes, burns or damage to internal organs, but this is extremely rare.

Rx For Readers welcomes queries from readers about medical problems. Experts will answer those we find most interesting, and replies will be printed in the twice-monthly column on the Health Page.

Write Rx For Readers, c/o Judy Siegel-Itzkovich, The Jerusalem Post, P.O.B. 81, Jerusalem 91000, or fax 02-389527, giving your initials, age and place of residence.

AIDS kept in check in nation's prisons

JUDY SIEGEL-ITZKOVICH

NEW inmates may bring HIV with them to prison, but it is highly unlikely that any will be infected with the AIDS virus during their incarceration, according to the Prisons Service.

Over the last 10 years, 72 inmates have tested positive for HIV within days of starting their sentence, says Dr. Ya'acov Zigelboim, chief medical officer of the Prisons Service. "We began testing almost immediately after blood tests for HIV became available for the general public. In 1986, we tested 5,000 inmates and found 14 of them to be HIV positive."

Each year, about seven or eight new inmates are found to be carriers, and they receive special medical treatment in an effort to slow the onset of the disease, he says.

Thanks to massive information efforts inside the prison and "relatively little use of injected drugs and few homosexual acts, not a single inmate has been found to have contracted HIV during his stay inside," Zigelboim says. He refers to the 6,000 criminal offenders in the country's jails; no figures are available about terrorists and other security prisoners.

Zigelboim, an internal-medicine specialist, says that every prisoner is tested for HIV, at the Health Ministry's expense, within a few days of his incarceration.

But because the Prisons Service has to finance tests for hepatitis B and C from its own budget, only prisoners who are at high risk for the disease – homosexuals and those addicted to injectable drugs – are monitored for these infectious, blood-borne diseases.

All prison workers who are in direct contact with inmates are vaccinated against hepatitis.

No prisoner is forced to undergo an HIV test, says Zigelboim, but so far only a handful have initially refused. Within a short time of hearing more about AIDS, "all have agreed to be tested without being pressured."



Now prisoners will have less chance of contracting the HIV virus while they are doing time. (Media Image)

He says it is prohibitively expensive to test everyone who returns from home leave, in case they were infected outside. But the service does test 500 veteran prisoners a year on a random basis. "No one turned HIV positive while in prison."

The Prisons Service allows HIV carriers to mix freely with other prisoners during the day, he explains. "But at night, when certain behaviors such as covert drug use and sexual encounters could occur despite our monitoring, we keep carriers together in a single cell or group of cells."

The results of HIV tests are kept strictly confidential; only the prison director is informed, and not his subordinates, he says. "But most carriers speak of it openly to fellow inmates and jailers; they think they'll be treated with more care and consideration if the fact is known."

Although some 80 percent of all criminal prisoners have a history of drug abuse, only about one in 10 took drugs intravenously before incarceration. The rest swallowed pills or sniffed or smoked hard drugs, he says.

Zigelboim adds that, aside from homosexual prisoners, few heterosexual inmates engage in homosexual acts in prison. For this reason, the service does not distribute either condoms or clean syringes to inmates. "We don't want to legitimize homosexuality or drug abuse; and, in fact, prisoners have not asked for them."

HIV carriers do not receive any special privileges; they undergo regular medical checks like other prisoners. However, the staff is provided with gloves for use in the event of an emergency, such as treating a prisoner who has cut or otherwise injured himself.

Prisoners with full-blown AIDS are released from prison when their condition deteriorates to the point that they need full-time medical care.

Hasharon Prison in the center of the country was recently designated a drug treatment center from inmates from institutions around the country; over 350 beds have been allocated for prisoners who want to undergo detoxification and rehabilitation. Those who need it initially receive methadone, but it is not given as a long-term substitute for heroin and other hard drugs, says the chief medical officer.

The service also has an AIDS information program for prisoners. All new inmates receive pamphlets about HIV and hepatitis B and C; they also periodically attend lectures and workshops on these diseases and how to avoid them. Public-health teams from the Jerusalem AIDS

Project and other infectious-disease experts visit prisons regularly to provide information and answer inmates' questions, and Narcotics Anonymous group sessions meet inside prison walls, Zigelboim says.

Chemist devises new way to battle cancer

HEALTH SCAN

Post Health Reporter

PLASTIC polymers that look like pieces of paper can be inserted into the brain after a neurosurgeon removes a malignant tumor; the sheets – impregnated with chemotherapy drugs – slowly disintegrate and kill off cancer cells without entering the bloodstream and reaching the rest of the body.

This patented technique was developed by Dr. Avraham Domb of the Hebrew University school of pharmacy's pharmaceutical chemistry department while working at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in Boston.

Domb says it can be used to fight cancer in various organs, but so far it has been approved by the US Food and Drug Administration only for brain tumors because clinical trials focused on this type of cancer.

The plastic dissipates harmlessly as the anti-cancer drugs do their job, says Domb. Conventional chemotherapy, given by infusion into the bloodstream, is highly toxic and kills off healthy cells as well as cancerous ones.

This also limits the amount of drugs the patient may be given. But localizing the treatment in the exact location where stray cancer cells may lurk increase the chances of recovery while allowing a larger dose of chemotherapy drugs.

Domb, who explained how the polymer delivery system works in the latest issue of *Ba'Universita*, expects the plastic-enclosed chemotherapy drugs to be put on the world market within 18 months.

BEWARE OF PRODUCTS OF 'FISHY' ORIGIN

Don't buy canned fish from an unknown source that lacks Hebrew on the label. According to the Health Ministry, such fish could be spoiled and cause serious food poisoning – even death.

A few years ago, a can of fish sent to Israel as a gift from a family in Russia caused several members of an immigrant family to take sick and one of them died.

Some 600 tins of sardines imported from Portugal and Morocco were destroyed recently by the ministry's Food Service. Chief veterinarian Dr. Robert Singer says sardines lacking Hebrew labels – meant for sale in the autonomous regions – were smuggled into Israel and sold in Tel Aviv.



Dr. Avraham Domb of the Hebrew University has developed new treatment for cancer sufferers. (Tav Or)

Food service director Dr. Brian Cousin says lab tests did not find contamination in this case, but merely marketing without Hebrew labeling constitutes grounds for destroying the cans.

The ministry routinely takes samples from legally imported canned fish to ensure safety. Cousin says contaminated fish may contain *botulinum* toxin, *E. coli* bacteria, chemicals from polluted waters and substances produced by the degeneration of the fish if left standing for a long time.

Inspectors also banned the import of canned smoked sprats (a small herring-like fish) marketed without Food Service authorization.

They, too, lacked Hebrew labeling on the label; selling food products without any Hebrew markings is a violation of product-marking regulations.

Meanwhile, the ministry has also warned the public not to buy food additives that are not marked with the name and full address of the manufacturer.

BABY AFTER EARLY MENOPAUSE

A woman who suddenly went into premature menopause in her early 30s gave birth last month to a healthy baby boy after undergoing

special hormone treatments at the Lin Clinic in Haifa.

This was reportedly the first such case in Israel and one of the few in the world.

The woman, who lives in a Haifa suburb, reached the clinic's infertility unit after she stopped ovulating and her menstrual periods ceased. Infertility unit director Dr. Ilan Calderone said going into menopause so prematurely is extremely rare.

The staff decided to adopt a technique developed in Australia in which hormones are used to stimulate the ovaries to ovulate one more time. This is done by giving an especially large dose of Pergonal.

The technique succeeded and the woman went through a normal pregnancy. She gave birth to a 3.150-kilo baby.

ARAB FUNDRAISING FOR MEDICAL CARE HERE

The Middle East Medical Assistance Foundation has been established to raise money among Arab communities in the Middle East and elsewhere to pay for special medical care in Israel for Arabs in the region.

One of its initiators is Issam Fanous, a Ramle lawyer. The first patient who will benefit from the fund is Dana Rasmi-El Gawi,

an eight-year-old Jordanian girl who is being treated by the American Medical Center and Sheba Hospital for cancer of the soft tissues of her arm. Her treatment will cost some \$60,000 and take eight months.

The foundation's bank account is at the Israel Discount Bank, branch 188 in Rishon LeZion, account number 3700.

KNESSET WATCHDOG FOR NAT'L HEALTH INSURANCE

The Knesset labor and social affairs committee has decided to establish a special parliamentary committee to monitor implementation of the national health insurance law in hospitals and clinics around the country.

Committee chairman MK Yossi Katz reached agreement with the Israel Medical Association (IMA) – which represents 14,000 of the country's physicians – to establish such a follow-up committee.

This body will monitor implementation of the system, which was introduced on January 1, on a regular basis. Among the criteria for success are the public's accessibility to and waiting time for medical services, and the number of hospitalization days per year.

Representatives of the Health Ministry, health funds and the IMA will take part in the committee.

The ministry's spokeswoman said it welcomed the establishment of such a body, even though the Health Ministry's departments are themselves monitoring implementation of the law.

LOONY IDEA

There is a correlation between the number of births on a given day and the phases of the moon, if you believe a new study conducted by physicist and astronomer Daniel Caton of Appalachia State College in North Carolina.

While the researcher didn't look into the relevance of astrological signs on personality characteristics, he did find that many more babies are born 21 days into the lunar cycle. This conflicts with folk beliefs that more births occur when the moon is full, 14 days into the lunar cycle. At 21 days, the moon rises at about midnight and appears as a half moon.

Although Caton studied records of 50 million US births, colleagues at a recent meeting of the American Astronomical Society in Arizona remained skeptical.

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Internationalizing the process

THE PLO's demand that the UN Security Council take up the matter of Israel's settlements, and the Egyptian campaign to force Israel to sign the Non-Proliferation Treaty have something in common. Both moves aim at internationalizing the peace process. The Arab regimes and the PLO have traditionally refused to negotiate directly with Israel for two fundamental reasons. They felt that independent, bilateral talks would give Israel what it wanted most: legitimacy as a sovereign equal. And they assumed that only international pressure would extract the kind of concessions from Israel that most Israelis consider irreconcilable with the country's national interests. That is why the "Madrid formula," under which Israel was to negotiate separately, bilaterally and independently with each adversary - albeit under the uninvolved sponsorship of the US and the USSR - was an extraordinary Israeli achievement. At the time, it was expected to put to rest the "international conference" idea, favored by the Arabs.

Unfortunately, not only the Arab regimes prefer an "international conference" - a euphemism for constant arbitration and interference by the world powers. It has been Foreign Minister Shimon Peres's pet dream, too. The reason is not difficult to fathom. Since he believes that peace will come if Israel withdraws to the 1949 armistice lines and a Palestinian state is established in Judea, Samaria and Gaza - a solution for which a majority is unlikely - he would prefer to have the assistance of irresistible world pressure.

The PLO appeal to the UN intends to return the peace process to international arbitration. It sidesteps the Oslo agreement, which stipulates that differences be resolved through bilateral negotiations between Israel and the PLO. At this time it has little chance to succeed, because the US, faithful to the Declaration of Principles, is not inclined to support it. Yasser Arafat is also aware that the Rabin government is committed to the agreement, if for no other reason than that the failure of the DOP would mean the end of Labor's rule. He is using such appeals to the international community to demonstrate to his constituency that he is exerting ceaseless pressure on Israel.

The motive of the Egyptian regime may be

similar. Cairo knows that even the concession-prone Labor government cannot sign the NPT. At most it may make a meaningless gesture. The reliance on nuclear deterrence is an option which advocates of withdrawal need far more than a government which stubbornly clings to strategic assets. The Mubarak regime knows, too, that its own sudden outburst of concern about Israel's nuclear facilities "near Egypt's border," as Egypt's Foreign Minister Amr Moussa put it, is artificial and unconvincing to the world community. As Peres has noted, "the distance from Dimona to Cairo has not changed for the past 17 years. Why the sudden concern?" (What the proximity of a nuclear reactor has to do with the threat of nuclear warheads is something only Moussa may be able to explain.) But the Egyptian regime obviously needs this fuss over NPT at this time, which means that it, too, is suffering from diminishing credibility at home.

Flexing muscles against Israel is a way of combating the national chauvinism which characterizes the propaganda of the Islamic militants. This muscle-flexing ranges from threats to withdraw from the NPT and incite other Arab states to do so, to refusing to discuss its own chemical warfare capabilities, to collaborating with the Gaddafi regime, to sabotaging Israel's efforts to normalize relations with Arab and African countries, to banishing Israel from the Cairo book fair, to banning *The Jerusalem Post*, and to virulent antisemitic propaganda in official publications. (A recent example appeared in a lead editorial in the government's newspaper *The Egyptian Gazette*, which concluded: "Frankly speaking, the Jews haven't and will not give up their wickedness which began in the days of Prophet Moses and until the day of resurrection.") It is an "ill wind" indeed, whose direction Peres's conciliatory efforts in Paris yesterday did little to change.

If the Mubarak regime feels it must radicalize to survive, if it is not strong enough to resist Islamic pressures without preempting the ultranationalist component of the militants' appeal, then instead of serving as Israel's bridge to the Arab world it may be getting closer to the rejectionist camp. This is a development not only Jerusalem but also Washington may want to ponder.



Tragedy in the making

JILL MORNINGSTAR

WHAT does it mean for the future and self-esteem of a community which deeply values education when the majority of its teenagers are sent away from home to boarding schools?

And what happens when most of them are placed in segregated boarding schools and denied the opportunity to prepare for higher education?

Finally, what does it mean when these children are black in a predominantly white society?

In a recent interview, Eli Amir, director-general of Youth Aliya, spoke compellingly about these issues, which confront the Ethiopian community in Israel.

"It is nothing less than a tragedy to take a child away from his or her family," Amir said. "The families who came in Operation Solomon should have been kept together.... The messages we have given [the Ethiopians] are that they are a weak community, that their families cannot take care of them, and that they are kids in trouble. And the end result is that we are destroying their families and destroying their community."

Ironically, the vast majority of young Ethiopians in Israel still attend Youth Aliya boarding schools - a policy presided over by Amir.

While some Youth Aliya-supported schools, like Yemin Orde, have done important pioneering work in absorbing Ethiopian immigrant students, most are studying in segregated, vocational boarding schools that, until this year, offered them no opportunity to take the matriculation exam (*bagrut*).

The result is that only 3-5 percent of young Ethiopian immigrants graduate high school fully prepared to move on to higher education.

This de facto classification of Ethiopian Jews as incapable of integration or academic study is a direct cause of alienation. The Elem Youth at Risk Research Institute reports that placement in these segregated boarding schools "creates a stigma."

The effect of this stigma is evidenced in the extraordinarily high number of Ethiopian high-school dropouts. According to the Elem report, out of 6,000 Ethiopian immigrant students of high-school age, a conservative assessment would place the number of dropouts at 500 (with hundreds more at risk).

Many of these dropouts are

fast slipping into patterns of juvenile delinquency, even violence - a phenomenon virtually unknown during the first years of the Ethiopian Jews' absorption in Israel. The hope and goodwill that accompanied that aliyah is fast being replaced by disaffection and despair of the future.

BOTH THE government and the Jewish Agency are talking about changing the education system to better accommodate the needs of

Ethiopian immigrant teenagers are being denied the education they deserve

this community. We applaud these efforts. However, no proposal has been formally adopted, and reform seems far away.

It would be a great shame to pass over another class of young Ethiopian Jews, pinning our hopes on the success of their younger brothers and sisters, or their children. Not another class of students should be denied the opportunities necessary to live a full life in Israel. There must be immediate implementation of change, before the next school year. Delay would have ramifications for generations to come.

The US Jewish community, which provides most of the funds for Youth Aliya, should be especially sensitive to this situation. Viewed from the perspective of the US, a nation that cannot free itself from the cycle of racism and poverty, where individuals cannot escape the collective history of their race, the situation of Israel's Ethiopian immigrants comes into unique focus.

In Israel there is no weight of 300 years of slavery, disenfranchisement, despair and fear between blacks and whites. Never before - and probably never again - will there be such a situation, where two races have come to live together with such goodwill.

Israel has the opportunity to prove that the racism Americans believe is inherent in a multicultural society isn't inevitable. This may be the last chance to show not only the nations of the world, but also every individual who has experienced the estrangement of

racial difference, that the pain of poverty, crime and the dissolution of family need not be seen through the prism of black and white.

The unfolding tragedy of Ethiopian education is entirely preventable. Model programs have shown time and again that Ethiopian students have the same learning capacity as their native Israeli counterparts. The Jewish Agency and the government must therefore immediately adopt and implement the policies they are discussing.

They must ensure that Ethiopian immigrant children who do not specifically require education away from their families can attend community schools. Enrichment programs must be provided from the early years of elementary school, so the children can close the extraordinary educational gap they face as immigrants.

And for those who remain in boarding schools, the schools must be immediately desegregated and provide matriculation-track education for all who have the potential to study on it.

At a recent meeting with members of the Ethiopian immigrant community, Amir was angered by criticism of Youth Aliya policies. If the department's efforts were considered lacking, he said, it might simply decide to cut agency support for young immigrants and stop accepting them into its schools.

But the Ethiopian Jews need the agency's support now more than ever. In confronting the enormous task of restructuring the educational system to suit the needs of young Ethiopian Jews, reducing support would be both irresponsible and destructive.

The Jewish Agency Board of Governors is meeting February 16-22. The board and the Youth Aliya committee have worked tirelessly to ensure the well-being of Jewish children in the Diaspora and in Israel. They must continue this vital and irreplaceable work by acting immediately to provide the best educational opportunities for Ethiopian Jews.

There is no excuse for the present system to continue. The board must act now to instigate the changes needed to guarantee the educational success of Ethiopian Jews. The future of their aliyah depends on it.

The writer coordinates activities in the Diaspora for the Israel Association for Ethiopian Jews.

Lost illusions

MIKE SWEENEY

PEOPLE like to think that their town is a safe place to bring up children. In many instances, people choose to make their homes in one place or another for that very reason.

That's the case with my town, Ridgefield, Connecticut - a place of inns, quaint stores, horse farms and leafy, suburban neighborhoods. Places like Ridgefield seem safe for children. But these days, is any place really safe?

James R. McConnon, a 39-year-old Ridgefield man, recently appeared in court to plead guilty to second-degree sexual assault and risk of injury to a minor. In making his plea, he admitted giving a 14-year-old girl vodka and having oral sex with her three times last year, before he was arrested on June 9.

It's the kind of case one reads about. But this case hits close to home - too close. I knew McConnon and his wife and children. And I knew the victim and her parents and siblings.

THERE WERE no signs that McConnon would do such a thing. He had a good job, a nice

Nice neighborhoods, where children play outside at twilight and sex abusers lurk

house, a family. Now he faces a prison sentence. McConnon's life will never be the same. Neither will the victim's. And, tragically, neither will the lives of both families.

McConnon shredded the security blanket for many people who live in peaceful towns with good neighborhoods, where kids play on the lawns in the twilight and can walk the dog anytime.

I'd like to think I'm not naive. I've been a police reporter and seen firsthand how people can harm, even kill, others. But the perspective is different when a child is involved, and the crime is sexual.

The taboos we live with get in the way of discussing what happens when a child is sexually abused. Nonetheless, parents should talk about the crime more, for it can happen even in the nicest neighborhoods.

Law enforcement officials who deal with these crimes say that teens are susceptible to sexual predators, who prey on their uncertainties and desire for acceptance.

Adolescence brings its own share of anxiety about sexuality, and someone willing to take advantage of a teenager's insecurity can cause tremendous damage. It can be a daunting task for a therapist to try to rebuild a victim's sense of trust in adults - when the victims are identified and get that help.

Not all of them do. Some experts say that the taboo that prevents open discussions about childhood sexual abuse also makes it easier for parents not to believe their children when they try to broach the subject.

The young victims feel awkward enough about participating in sexual encounters with adults. They know that what the perpetrators are doing is wrong. But when a victim tries to raise a warning flag, a parent often refuses to believe it could be so, shrugs off the notion that some grown-up could sexually abuse a child, and so the perpetrator of the crime gets away with it. He may prey on another child, and then another and another, while parents wallow in denial.

Responsible parents, who know these crimes go on, will sit with their child, learn all the details and report them to the police.

That's far easier to say than to do, for anger is often hard to suppress. But getting the police involved and pursuing the case to a conclusion in court is important. Other children will be safer once a sex abuser is put in jail.

I will be forever grateful that the parents of McConnon's victim called the cops. You see, my daughter is only a year younger than theirs. And in my safe, peaceful neighborhood, she baby-sat McConnon's children.

Now she is their former baby-sitter, and I am without the illusion of safety that once seemed so comforting.

(Greenwich Time)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

BROKEN PROMISES

Sir, - Many voted for Labor and their allies in the pious hope that they would achieve peace within a short time. Many applauded the signing of the Oslo accords and prayed that they would finally lead to "peace in our time."

Arafat promised to curb and condemn terrorism, reveal the whereabouts of our MIAs, hand over terrorists for trial, limit the number of his so-called "police force" to 9,000, and repeal the Palestinian Covenant which calls for the destruction of Israel. In his Johannesburg speech, he made it crystal clear that he has no intention of keeping any agreement with Israel. Does all this count for nothing with our government? After any particularly nasty act of terrorism all that they do is close off Gaza and the territories for a week or so until public outrage has died down and then solemnly state that "the peace process will continue." How many more Jewish lives have to be lost before Mr. Rabin has the guts to say "enough is enough," take retaliatory action and suspend the peace process?

But it would seem that Messrs. Rabin and Peres, driven by their die-hard "Peace Now" camp followers, are so entrenched in their position that they do not see the danger signals. Have they not absorbed the lesson of 1938/9 that appeasement leads directly to surrender or war? Why do they not heed the many warnings, not even the voice of President Weizman?

In the meantime, forced to wait until we can make our voices heard in the next election, all an ordinary citizen can do is pray and write letters.

BILL OAKFIELD

Netanya.

NORTH AMERICA

Sir, - In the *Business and Finance* section of the *Post* of January 19, the last paragraph in the article about changes to be made in the Dead Sea Concession Law states that "the international issue will take place in share markets on three continents: the US, Europe and Asia."

I wish to call to the attention of the writer that the US is not a continent and that North America includes several other countries, such as Canada and Mexico.

SHARON PERESS
Tel Aviv.

The Jerusalem Post regrets the error. - Ed. J.P.

ENOUGH IS ENOUGH

Sir, - It took me an unusually long time to sound off on the issue of the so-called peace process. I too, like many others, had hoped against all odds that maybe there was light at the end of the tunnel.

I held out on criticizing as long as I possibly could. Finally, I have concluded, enough is enough. We cannot accept Arab terrorism as a way of life and certainly not a way to die. Arabs are sworn enemies of Israel and are committed to the destruction of Israel and Jews as a whole.

It is high time to take a positive stand. If blood is what they want... make them bleed. The Jews of Europe were passive and were led to their destruction. Have we learned nothing? We must not wait like the remnants of the Warsaw Ghetto to die in a fight which was doomed from the start. Now, unlike then, our people have a country and an army, all we need now is the resolve to fight and win.

A humane solution would be a population transfer with some kind of compensation. This is more than would be offered to Jews by Arabs, given a chance. A transfer of population is not a novel idea. The Russians have done it... the Poles have done it... so have the Czechs, the Greeks, the Turks, Bulgarians and others. It is time for Israel to join the ranks and separate itself from this festering boil.

Should the world howl in protest over the expulsion, I and many others would prefer their howling to spilled crocodile tears and being the recipient of condolences for killed Jews, a ritual they are famous for.

JOSEPH CEDER

Far Rockaway, N.Y.

AVENGING ANGELS

Sir, - Your excellent editorial ("Remembering the facts," February 13) regarding the allied firebombings of Dresden during World War II will, no doubt, cause much squirming among the politically correct. Thank you for reminding them, and us, about certain historical facts which preceded the killing of approximately 35,000 German civilians.

To hate and vigorously battle evil is surely as much part of Judaism's heritage to humanity as is its much more often quoted opposite - loving one's neighbor. And just as surely no more pure or blatant form of evil can be imagined in this century than the dark forces of Nazism. World War II Germany's unrestrained reliance upon brute force, inhuman devastation and vicious terror against vast numbers of non-Aryans whom they planned to eventually kill or enslave should leave no one feeling guilty or apologetic about the fate of Dresden's citizens. After all, it was they, along with millions of their fellow Germans, who freely voted, for, supported, and ultimately fought with the Nazis - as you so aptly describe.

As a former member of Israel's Justice Ministry during the mid-'80s when the ministry undertook to bring to justice some WWII Nazis, I deeply regret that we failed to punish our people's oppressors as the fiasco trial of John Demjanjuk so painfully demonstrates. When US and British bomber crews flew over Dresden, however, they (literally as well as poetically) brought "justice from the heavens."

Avenge angels? Perhaps. I wish I could have been among them.

PAUL KORDA

Mevasseret Zion.

TRAFFIC LIGHTS

Sir, - Your lim report of January 29 about the death of a young Jerusalemite in a traffic accident at the junction of Herzog, Gaza and Tchernichowsky streets omitted one of the main reasons for the accident.

It seems to be an Israeli invention that here in Jerusalem (I cannot vouch for other cities) main intersection traffic lights are turned off during the night to be replaced by flashing orange warning lights. This practice has, to my knowledge, caused quite a few deaths in Jerusalem alone in the past few years. Maybe the Ministry of Transport should rethink this practice.

A. SHABBAT

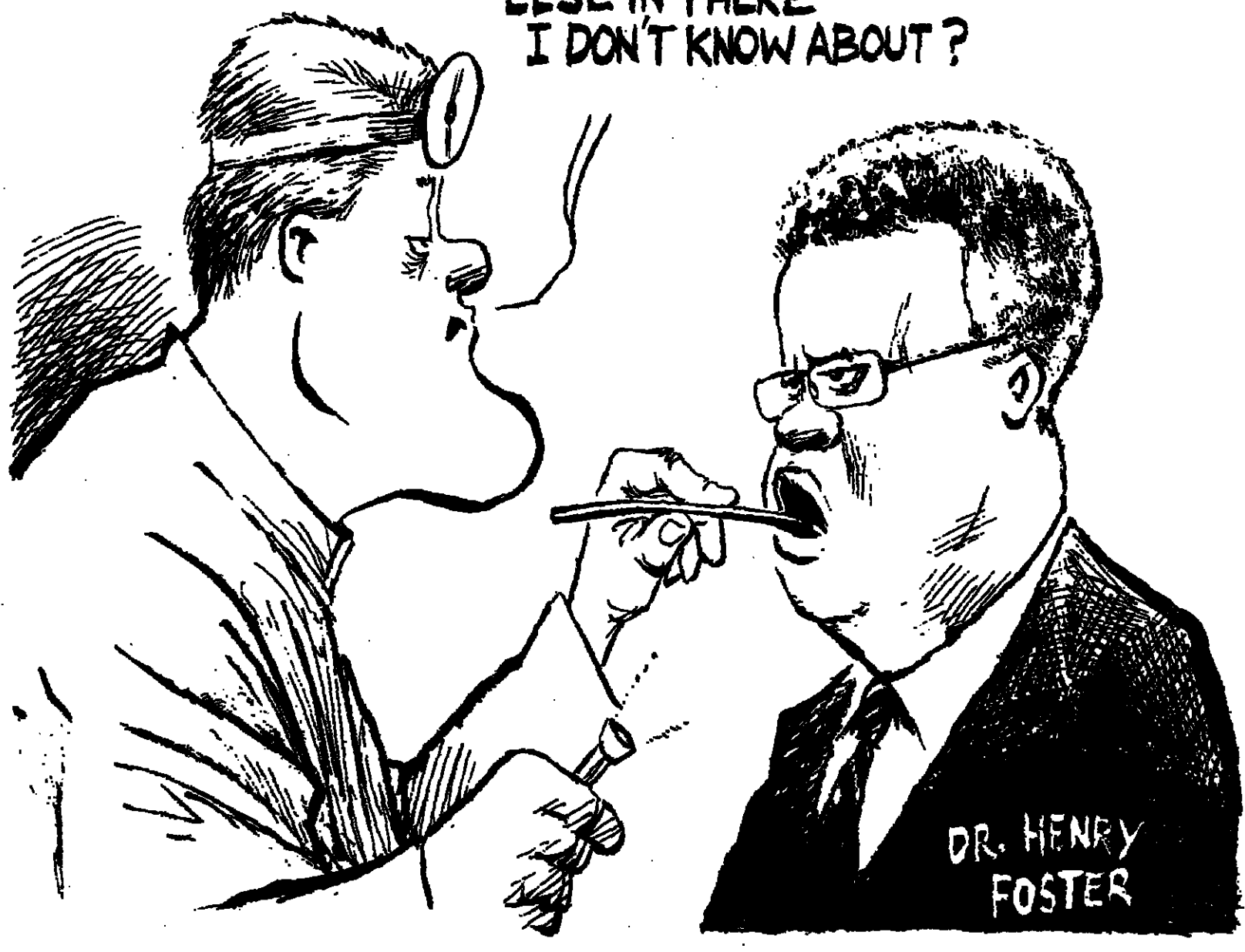
Jerusalem.

AMERICAN OUTLOOK

Sunday, February 19, 1995

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IS THERE ANYTHING
ELSE IN THERE
I DON'T KNOW ABOUT?



New Surgeon General

With rumors spreading that President Clinton's new appointee to surgeon general reportedly performed more than 700 abortions, Capitol Hill members found themselves debating the morality of abortion at a time when they thought they were only considering a presidential appointment.

BY ROBERT NOVAK

When fax machines around the nation's capital last week started spitting out a sheet of paper whose contents endangered President Clinton's new nominee for surgeon general, it became clear how little this White House has learned about operating effectively in Washington.

The word passed by presidential aides was that the alleged fragment of a 16-year-old transcript, which had Dr. Henry Foster Jr. suggesting he had performed nearly 700 abortions, was either a forgery or a mistake. That claim, said administration officials, came from the nominee himself.

A forgery surely it is not. The odds are heavily against an error in transcription. Instead, Foster is in deep trouble.

After over two years in office, the Clinton team neither fully explored its nominee's record nor pointed out to him the traps on the road his predecessor as surgeon general, Dr. Joycelyn Elders, failed to negotiate.

Disclosure

Considering the president's precarious political condition, it would have been thought he would pick a non-controversial public health officer to fill what had been a low-profile, third-level job prior to flamboyant Dr. C. Everett Koop's arrival in 1981. But Clinton has turned the post into an affirmative action slot, insisting that another African-American be selected.

Foster, acting director of Meharry Medical

College in Nashville, Tenn., disclosed in the vetting process prior to his selection that he had performed a few abortions.

After some backing and filling once his nomination was announced, he last week set the number at fewer than a dozen which were primarily for rape, incest or saving the life of the mother.

There the matter might well have stood had it not been for a woman in Pittsburgh named Randy Engel, who works for the Michael Fund -

It would be impolitic for the new surgeon general to have performed that many abortions. It will be suicide for him and poisonous for the president if he is now lying about his past.

an organization engaged in genetic research from a pro-life standpoint. She remembered that this same Dr. Foster, then chairman of the obstetrics department at Meharry, was a member of an ethics advisory board named by the secretary of Health, Education and Welfare (HEW) that met in Seattle Nov. 10, 1978.

At this writing, Clinton administration officials are still trying to find a transcript of that hearing. Why did Engel have so little trouble finding it?

"I walked downstairs in my home and got it," she told me. The fuller transcript makes obvious that the single page faxed around Washington is not forged. What's more, Foster may have difficulty proving he is misrepresented.

Under discussion that long ago day in Seattle was an experimental technique called fetoscopy by which sickle cell anemia, a genetic disease afflicting mainly African-Americans, could be diagnosed in the fetus.

The specific procedure, which apparently proved a failure, was described at the meeting by HEW official Barbara Mishkin as using the fetoscope "on mothers who have elected to have abortions for reasons totally unrelated to the research." After the fetus' blood stream had been analyzed, the abortion would take place.

Transcript

Mishkin explained, according to the transcript, that this was not therapeutic research because it was not designed to provide therapy for the fetus.

At this point, Dr. James Gaither, chairman of the advisory board, turned to Foster and said, "Hank, would you say something about the science of this?" Foster replied that he would "say something about the science and the sociology."

The remarks he made sound, to the layman at least, more medical than sociological - for example, discussing the possibility of infection. But in passing, he uttered the words that have now come to haunt him:

"I have done a lot of amniocentesis and therapeutic abortions, probably near 700." These are two different procedures, and it seems clear that the 700 refers to the abortions.

The early administration denials can be written off. The document is valid. This is the same Dr. Foster the president nominated. It defies credulity to believe Foster did not correct this transcript when it was circulated 16 years ago.

So, Health and Human Services officials are directing reporters to other doctors who were present in Seattle, claiming they will assert that Foster could not have said what is transcribed. It is no trifling point. It would be impolitic for the new surgeon general to have performed that many abortions.

It will be suicide for him and poisonous for the president if he is now lying about his past.

Robert Novak is a nationally syndicated columnist of the Chicago Sun-Times.

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PC cops pounce on Rutgers president

BY ALAN DERSHOWITZ

The political correctness cops have now charged one of their own with using politically incorrect language in support of a politically correct goal. The accused is the recently appointed president of Rutgers University, Francis L. Lawrence. Dr. Lawrence — a strong advocate of race-specific affirmative action, who has increased minority enrollment — made the following observation about test scores, race and the need for affirmative action during a rambling, two-hour question-and-answer session with about 30 faculty senate members.

"The average S.A.T.'s for African-Americans is 750... Do we set standards in the future so that we don't admit anybody? Or do we deal with a disadvantaged population that doesn't have the genetic hereditary background to have a higher average?"

During the discussion itself, no one responded to the president's words. Indeed, as one professor who was present put it: "The reaction: not a syllable. It did not seem to anybody in the room that anything outrageous had been said, in part because of the context, the body language, the tone and suggestions that he believed in opportunity. Everybody knew him by his deeds."

Despite his good deeds, the political correctness cops eventually caught up with him and leaked a tape of the discussion to news organizations. Now, quite predictably, the editors of The Rutgers

The flap over Dr. Lawrence's amateur genetics goes beyond exposing the double standards of some students and faculty members when it comes to race.

Daily Targum, and many other students are demanding President Lawrence's resignation. A school basketball game had to be canceled after a sit-in on the court in which demonstrators shouted "Hell, no our genes ain't slow," and "Dr. Lawrence gotta go."

The hypocrisy doesn't pass the smell test. Recall that The Rutgers Targum has proudly published Holocaust denial editorials, arguing that freedom of speech requires it to exercise its editorial discretion by giving free space to demonstrably false and bigoted nonsense. I don't know what position the chanting students have taken on the free speech rights of Professor Leonard Jeffries, the ignorant racist who reaches his New York City college students that whites lack the "genetic" melanin to be decent people. But I will bet that many of those who are now demanding Dr. Lawrence's resignation also demanded Professor Jeffries' reinstatement after he was removed from the chairmanship of the Black Studies department because of his racist speeches. This, too, is a form of race-specific affirmative action — tolerating blatant racism when preached by a black administrator while insisting on the dismissal of a white administrator who uttered two politically incorrect words.

The flap over Dr. Lawrence's silly sally into amateur genetics goes beyond exposing the double standards of some students and faculty members when it comes to race. It illustrates the dangers of a mindset that sees race-specific affirmative action as a permanent or long-term response to our tragic history of racism. I suspect that deep down some supporters of permanent racial quotas really do believe that there are permanent — that is inherent — differences between whites and blacks.

This is a delicate issue, around which advocates of permanent racial quotas have tip-toed. For example, in the Bakke case, a brief filed by Columbia, Harvard, Stanford, and the University of Pennsylvania made the following argument:

"The unfortunate fact of life in this country is that the applicants who are members of minority groups tend, as a general matter, not to score as well as whites on the standardized tests to which reference is made in the admissions process. We think it unnecessary to labor here the reasons for this phenomenon."

Several pages later it observed that "In recent years, Japanese-Americans have had sufficiently high grades and test scores that at some institutions the need for their inclusion in special admissions programs is no longer necessary. The same may be true with respect to Chinese-Americans."

Though the brief went on to emphasize the "educational deprivation" of African-Americans, it also insisted that even the best educated and most affluent blacks be included in race-specific affirmative action. Indeed, it is fair to say that it is precisely the best educated and most affluent blacks — those whose lawyer and doctor parents graduated from elite universities and who themselves attended fancy prep schools — who most often benefit from the affirmative action programs of the elite universities.

This sort of simple racial preference sends the kind of false and dangerous message that slipped off President Lawrence's tongue at the faculty gathering. President Lawrence blames his slip on a politically incorrect — and factually questionable — book he didn't read. He claims that he had been "thinking and talking" about "The Bell Curve," which he refused to read because he considers its premise "morally wrong." Perhaps his penance should be to read this misguided book and provide an intellectually cogent response to it and a morally cogent justification for long-term race-specific affirmative action.

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EDITORIAL CARTOONS

SMITHSONIAN HIROSHIMA EXHIBIT



HIGGINS



Martyrs and the mob

I cried a little at first, but later I stopped. When I saw the flesh and blood of the Jews, I was happy. It was the best martyrdom possible... This made us walk tall.
—Abdel Rahim Sukar, brother of suicide bomber Anwar Sukar, *The New York Times*, Jan. 25, 1995.

Among the Palestinians, Jan. 1 called "the day of the eruption." This year was the thirtieth annual observance of the beginning of what the PLO is still pleased to call its armed struggle. And so, on that occasion, at a jamboree of nearly 30,000 in Gaza, Yasser Arafat exhorted the assembled.

"We are all seekers of martyrdom... I say to the martyrs who died, to the martyrs who are still alive, we hold to the oath, we hold to the commitment to continue the revolution..."

This speech was broadcast on Palestinian TV, routinely accessible to Israeli viewers. But, of course, we Americans did not see it, not on "The MacNeil/Lehrer NewsHour," not on Peter Jennings and not on CNN, and we did not hear it on "All Things Considered," either. Nonetheless, the speech was given and its words do have meaning. Arafat's meaning is clear. Those who now wage war for Palestine through politics are at one with those who wage that war through martyrdom.

The martyrs struck again last Sunday outside Natanya, a town on the Mediterranean and, well within Israel's pre-1967 borders. Two men, with bombs strapped to their bodies, detonated themselves in the snack bar of a bus terminal. The explosions were timed eight minutes apart. The first was intended to kill one wave of victims; the second to kill those who rushed to the rescue. This is a tactic taken from the devil himself. As of this writing, 19 Israelis are dead, 61 wounded, some in critical condition.

The terrorists' decision to wreak their mayhem behind the frontiers of old Israel is shrewd. Had they targeted Jews across the green line, that is, in the occupied territories, many mainstream Israelis would have blamed the settlers themselves for the troubles. Something like this; they shouldn't be there in the first place; they should leave, give peace a chance. But the terrorists do not want to give peace a chance. In fact, they don't want peace at all. In taking their war to the streets of Tel Aviv and the outskirts of Natanya they ensure that those same conciliatory mainstream Israelis will now turn against the very peace process that for years has been the name of their desire. Even Ezer Weizman, the president of the state, who has argued for fundamental compromises with the Palestinians, has now called for a suspension of the peace talks with the PLO since that organization seems either unable or unwilling to rein in terror.

Apparently, one of the Natanya martyrs was recently released, one among hundreds, from an Israeli prison, having been on the PLO demand list in the negotiations with Israel. Yitzhak Rabin has been criticized for letting these certified gangsters go. With good reason. Anwar Sukar is not the first, but the twentieth, releasee to lap into his old habits with a vengeance. Still, murder-suicide is a particularly ghastly expression of this recidivism. There are, however, others ready to follow him into precisely such a death... and, presumably, paradise immediately thereafter. Several dozens of them, wearing white sheets to cover their

faces and ready to die, were recently trotted out at yet another televised kill the Jews pep rally in Gaza, unimpeded either by Arafat's men or by Israel. Such gatherings advertise workshops in the marketing of car bombs and in other specialties of the terrorist trade. Had kindred Muslim extremists, anti-regime rather than merely anti-Jewish, so shown their hand in, say, Egypt or Algeria, they would have been quickly dispatched by the country's counterterrorist commandos to the great unmoved mover in the sky. Indeed, in those countries they are already being regularly so dispatched to eternity.

Israelis overwhelmingly cheered the Sept. 13, 1993, handshake because they thought their unprecedented concessions would finally bring them some peace. The stark facts are that terror against Israel and Israelis has increased and that its perpetrators are not even perfunctorily pursued by the autonomy regime. This is dismaying to say the least and support among the Israeli populace for the agreement and for the government that signed it, has been steadily ebbing away. With this last enormity on the sea coast, labor would undoubtedly lose to the rightist Likud in parliamentary elections, and Rabin would also lose to the Likud's leader Benjamin Netanyahu, in the country's first direct balloting for prime minister.

What keeps those who are yet resolute about the peace process, resolute even now is the conviction that there are two sorts of Palestinians. There are Arab moderates and there are Islamic fanatics. In this mechanical categorization, the Islamic fanatics are against peace and the Arab moderates are for it. But these Israelis also harbor another comforting thought, without which they'd have no peace of mind at all. Like the Jewish national chauvinist fundamentalist, Israelis tell themselves, the pious Muslim extremists are marginal, on the fringe. Well, yes, Dr. Goldstein was really on the fringe, a crazed man with a few crazed after-the-fact comrades who think him a hero. But no one has followed in his footsteps. And the atrocity in the Cave of Abraham remains sui generis.

No one can say this about the continuous deeds of Hamas and Islamic Jihad and the Kassem Brigades. Separately and together, they constitute a mass movement. Here, there and everywhere they win elections, in professional bodies and among students. And they have won the crude elections in the streets. Those that determine who commands the mob. This is, in its way, an expression of democracy, more democratic certainly than the murderous ruses that have enthroned Arafat for three decades. While an Israeli government official was still speculating whether one of the suicide bombers came from Gaza, Israeli television was already showing a condolence tent outside his Gaza home to which thousands were trooping to pay their respects and show solidarity.

These are not marginal men who go out to kill Jews. They are representative men. They have the esteem of their brothers and neighbors. They do their horrible work to the acclaim of the mob that cheers them and to the loaded and meaningful silence of those who drive quiet satisfaction from such deeds but are too embarrassed and too careful to say so in public. There is a code in this world. The few grudging and crimped criticisms of such deeds issued by

Arafat's lieutenants and this time again it was Nabil Shaath, everyone's favorite reasonable Palestinian are written off as the sorts of things one is forced to say before Yahud and before the stranger.

There is no denying the palpable reality of Muslim extremism and its extremist brand of Palestinian politics. It is native and authentic, and it has virtually nothing to do, either doctrinally or financially, ethnically or linguistically, with the Islamic fanatics who rule in Iran. Its base is the base built up during the intifada and, despite sometimes violent clashes with various PLO factions, it is on a continuum along which lies the PLO itself. There are no abrupt breaks demographically between the two groupings. They coexist in cities and villages, in clans and families and in the guts of individuals. Arafat's police include those who are said to be its enemies. Among enemies momentarily outside his camp are thousands who learned their politics and their violence in his militias. The Palestinian movement is chaotic. But it is, at least in one critical respect, very stable. Save for those who hanker for the return of the Hashemites, there is no evidence that many Palestinians, even of a more or less secular bent, want a reasonable peace with Israel.

This is the reality that Israel will not look in the face. By drawing sharp lines between the two clear and antagonistic Palestinian camps of its imagination, the government is able to exonerate the one it has chosen as its partner. But if this exonerator is undeserved the peace process itself is a road that leads nowhere. Some dovish Israelis, including a few in the government, have taken the increased violence of the Palestinians and the increased support among the Palestinians for violence as a reproach to themselves. They have not been forthcoming enough, they taunt each other. They should accelerate the devolution of functions to the Palestinians, they should expand the turf of the autonomy, they should remove Jews from the territories, they should mute their own millennial passion for Jerusalem, they should lobby Washington for the Palestinians, they should solicit London and Paris and Bonn, they should get the Palestinians more money, allow them more arms, grant them more of the essentials to statehood. And what if these steps and other don't save - and they won't save - the Palestinians, what then?

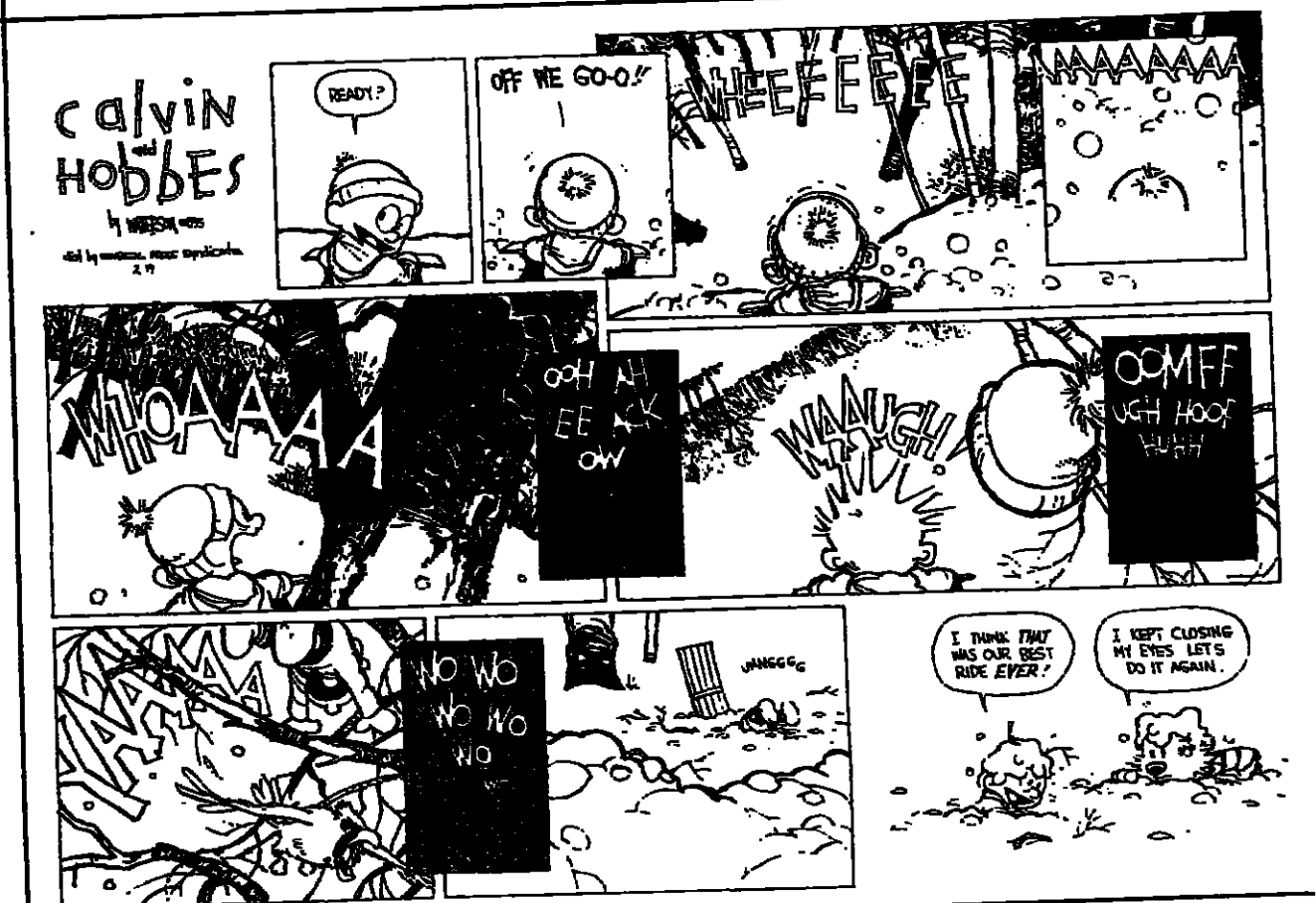
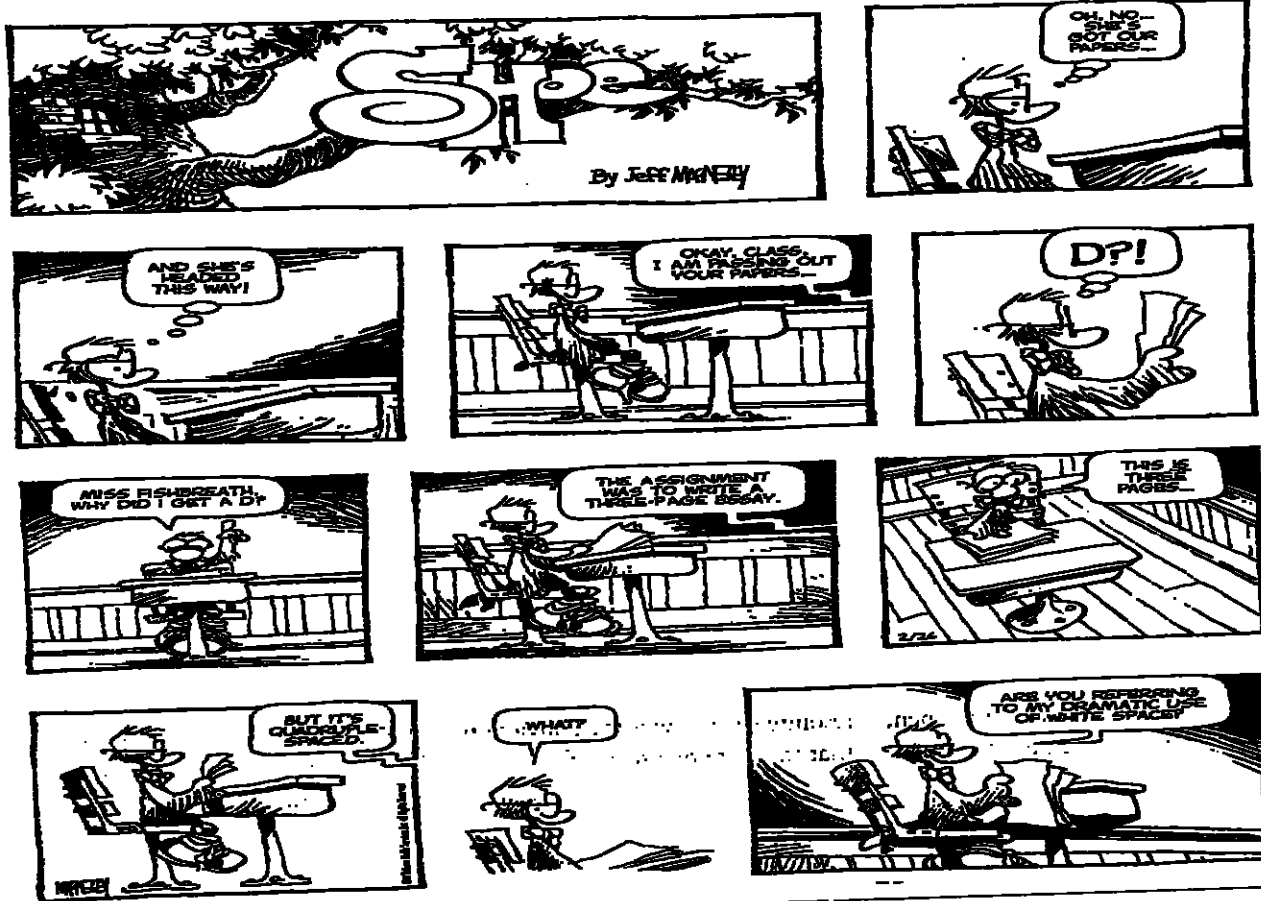
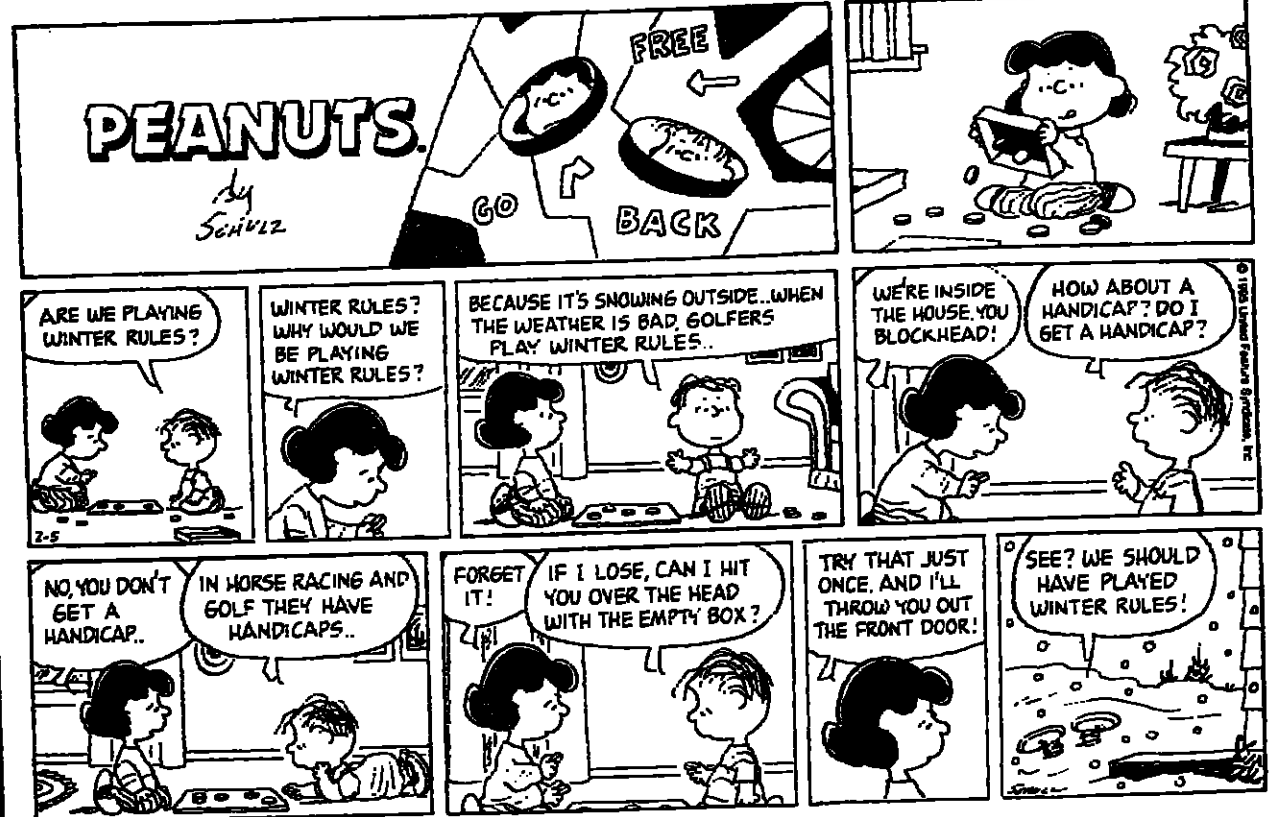
There is a lesson to be learned for Israel by a comparison of the Palestinians with the Irish. In Northern Ireland, the killings have stopped. They stopped not because anything close to an agreement has been signed but because both sides decided that murder was not a way to live. For the moment, at least, they have resolved to talk instead. Neither the Protestant Ultras nor the Catholic Provos know what satisfaction, if any, awaits them at the end of the barely begun negotiating process. In this, they are different from the Palestinians, who know that at the end of their road there will be something called Palestine. This evidently does not suffice. And it is this that makes one suspect that, idle as their hope may be, the only road they are willing to travel peacefully is one at the end of which will be Palestine alone. But that, alas, is the road of more bloodshed.

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SUNDAY COMICS

Doonesbury

G.B. TRUDEAU



TODAY'S SUNDAY PUZZLE

ACROSS

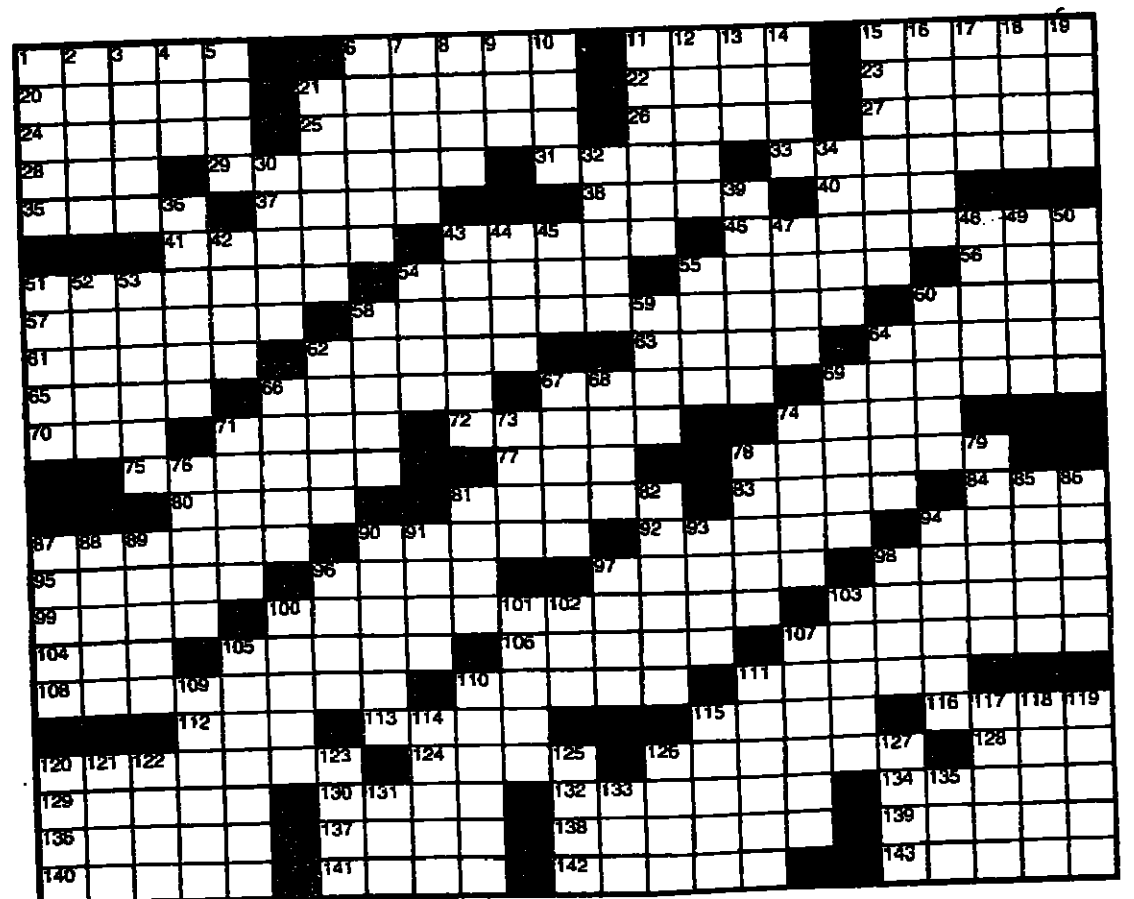
- 1 Composer Francis
- 6 Used the oven
- 11 Post Teesdale
- 15 Studied with intent
- 20 Tennis player
- 21 Musical composition
- 22 Golf club
- 23 Houston athlete
- 24 Playing marble
- 25 Made up (for)
- 26 Bearing
- 27 Obvious
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Public TV clash results in Third Wave backlash

BY MICKEY KAUS

We are all taking the ideas of Alvin Toffler very seriously these days, thanks to House Speaker Newt Gingrich's enthusiasm for Toffler's "Third Wave information revolution." So it was probably inevitable that a backlash (or is it backwash?) would develop. In a cover story for *Time*, Robert Wright claims that Tofflerian ideas of electronic "citizen participation" are leading to "hyperdemocracy," defined as "a nation that... is thoroughly plugged in to Washington — too plugged in for its own good."

I'm sorry, but I don't get it. Maybe I'm mired in obsolete Second Wave thinking, but the troubles of our democracy do not seem to me to be rooted in the technological changes, even the "spectacular advances in communications technology" that make up Toffler's "Third Wave." Is it possible that these changes are not as revolutionary as Gingrich claims, and that therefore they are not as scary as Wright claims?

The "hyperdemocracy" thesis, Wright makes clear, is actually composed of two distinct complaints. The first concerns the power of minorities ("special interests"). Communications technology, the argument goes, has radically lowered the cost of forming a special interest group. When James Madison wrote *The Federalist*, he could claim that the sheer size of the country made it hard for "factions" to "discover their own strength and act in unison with each other." But then came the telegraph, and radio and direct-mail technology. Today, factions form spontaneously on the Internet. The resulting explosion of interest groups threatens to paralyze Washington.

But there is a second, equally malign effect of communications technology, according to Wright: It allows "the constant canvassing of public sentiment." The "ever more rapid feedback" between the voters and Congress short-circuits the deliberative, representative democracy envisioned in the Constitution, producing something like a plebiscitary system. Wright

cites the rapid journey of the "three strikes and you're out" idea from talk-show cause to federal legislation as an example of the "impulsive passage of dubious laws." Gingrich's promised push-button "electronic town-halls" will only make matters worse.

The first, obvious thing to note about these two sinister cybernetic trends is that they are contradictory. Trend No. 1 makes it easier for minorities to organize and thwart the majority interest. Trend No. 2 makes it easier for the majority to blow away dissenting minorities. Might not the two trends cancel each other out?

A close reading of Toffler's apocalyptic compositions confirms that this would not be a bad thing. In "The Third Wave," Toffler initially declares that "the first heretical principle of Third Wave government is that of minority power." Majority rule, he claims, is "increasing-

The mere threat of a plebiscite pitting the majority against one or two special interests would make all special interests more amenable to reason.

ly obsolete." But he soon has second thoughts. We "cannot allow tiny minorities to make vast decisions," he says, proposing various high-tech, direct-democracy gimmicks for enforcing the majority's will. Half the votes in Congress, he suggests, should be turned over to a scientifically selected random sample of the public.

For all his silliness, Toffler winds up recognizing the obvious: minority power (Wright's Trend No. 1) is a much more serious threat than plebiscitary rule (Trend No. 2). The reason has less to do with microchips than with Madison. As Wright notes, Madison designed the Constitution to frustrate majority factions, not "special interests." He divided the government into three branches, and the legislature into two, all with the express purpose of ensuring against majority tyranny. Today, his state-machine frustrates majorities that

demand action, while rewarding minorities that demand special subsidies as the price of letting legislation pass. One result is the current budget deficit.

If Tofflerian communications technology — talk radio, faxes, making the text of legislation available in cyberspace — helps the nation's majority cut through this constitutional tangle, so much the better. But it's also becoming clear, as Gingrich's populist proposals die in the Senate, that all the electronics in the world is no match for Madison's obstructionist scheme. Actually empowering a majority to defeat minorities — letting Trend No. 2 defeat Trend No. 1 — will take some structural tinkering. The line-item veto, recently passed by the House, is a good start. It would vastly strengthen the power of the president to trump the inherently parochial interests of Congress. A stronger reform would take Wright's ominous plebiscitary trend to its logical conclusion: plebiscites. You want to cut down on special-interest "gridlock"? Let the president, once a year, frame a piece of legislation and put it before the entire nation. The mere threat of a plebiscite pitting the majority against one or two special interests would make all special interests more amenable to reason. Does the nation really need to spend billions subsidizing agribusinesses in a few Midwestern states? Let the people vote! They don't even have to vote electronically. Pen and paper will do. It's Second Wave, but it might work.

Mickey Kaus is a senior editor of *The New Republic*.

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AMERICAN OUTLOOK

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Rock the Casbah

BY CHARLES LANE

Where did the following events take place? Guerrillas hijack an airliner, only to die in a violent raid by security forces. In retaliation, the rebels kill four foreign Roman Catholic priests, then set off a car bomb in the middle of the capital, killing forty-two people and injuring 256 — the bloodiest incident in three years of civil war. Revenge is again taken when military death squads kill fifteen militants. U.S. officials estimate the weekly death toll at 700 or more.

The horrors took place in the last two months in Algeria. Underplayed by the American media (it's too dangerous to send reporters), the war in the Maghreb's most populous nation is the bloodiest in the Middle East; it pits Islamic radicals against a very brutal military junta, which usurped power in December 1991 to head off an Islamic election victory. The direct threat to U.S. interests is small. But the repercussions could be large. They include a floodtide of refugees in France, Algeria's former colonial metropole; bolder Islamic movements in Egypt, Tunisia and Morocco; increased tension between the West and Islam; and more contentious Franco-American relations.

Algeria is France's El Salvador: Just as the Reagan administration backed a brutal and corrupt army in El Salvador as preferable to a Communist insurgency, so the French support Algeria's military with intelligence, training, money and arms, because they see radical Islam as the greater evil. And the situation today is also a replay of the Battle of Algiers, and not just in the tactical sense that both sides are engaging in the nastiest kinds of back-alley murder and torture. Emotional bonds to Algeria are strong in France, especially among military officers who got their first taste of combat in Algiers a generation ago. For Algerians, the legend of that uprising makes violence a legitimate response to illegitimate authority.

And then there's the Iran analogy. Once again, the West faces the overthrow of a pliant but unsavory dictatorship by little-understood fundamentalist forces. This comparison, though, may be the least exact. Algeria's Muslims are Sunnis, not Shiites like Iran's and so may be less likely to harbor millennial, hegemonic aspirations than their Persian counterparts. At least Algeria's Muslims tried to gain power democratically before they were thwarted — which enhances the legitimacy of their war and raises the hope that, in power, they might be easier to work with than the Khomeinists.

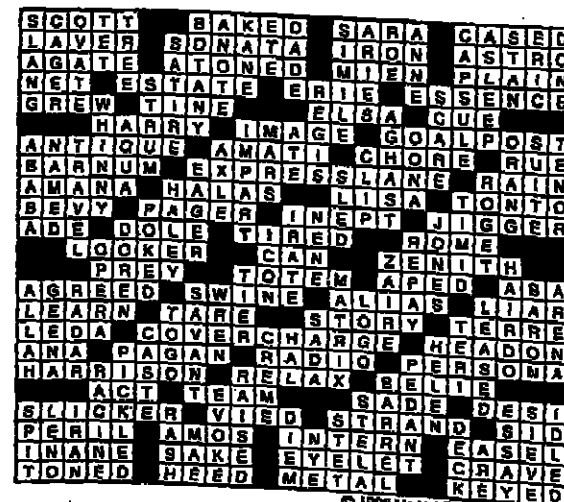
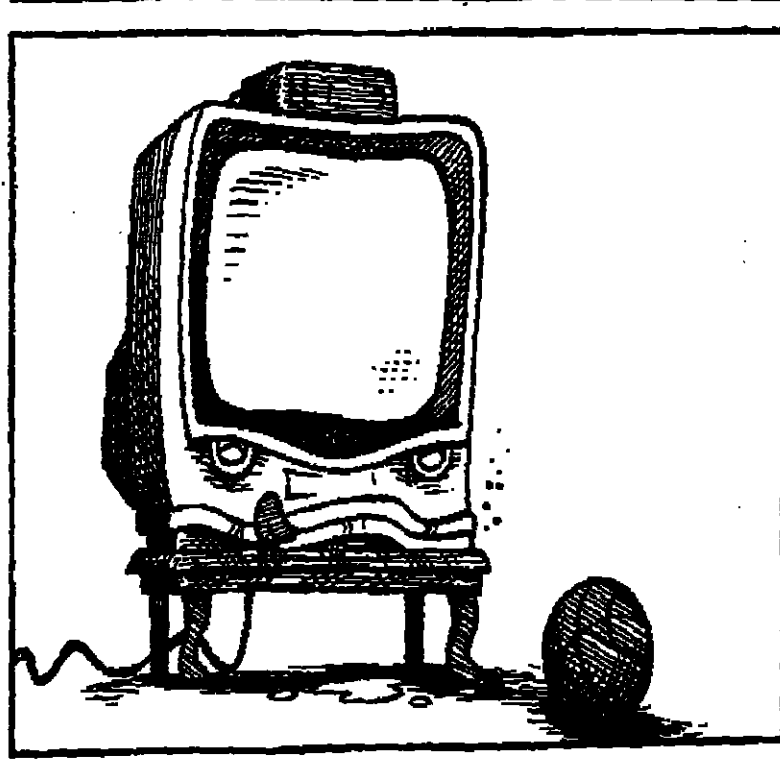
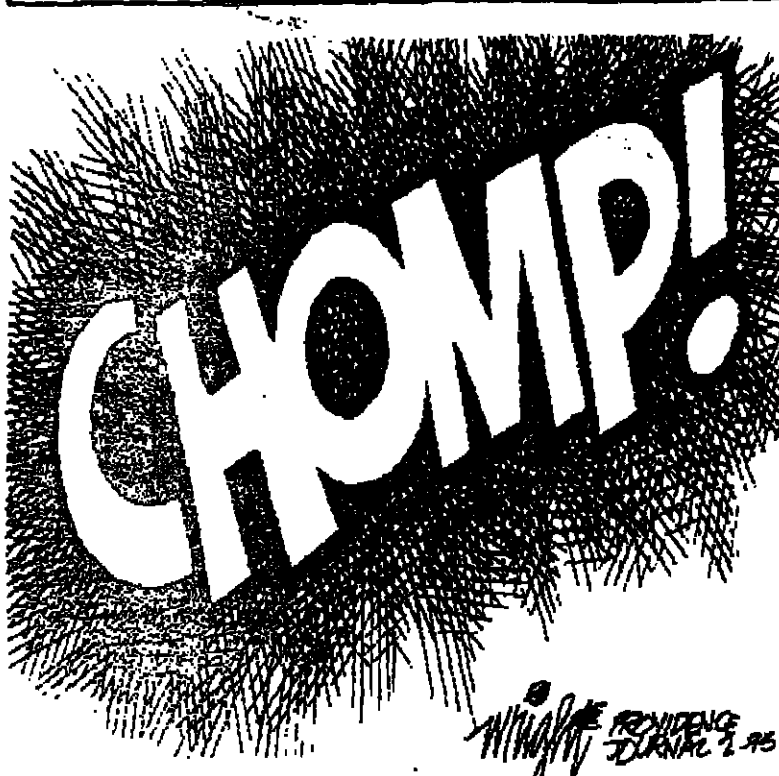
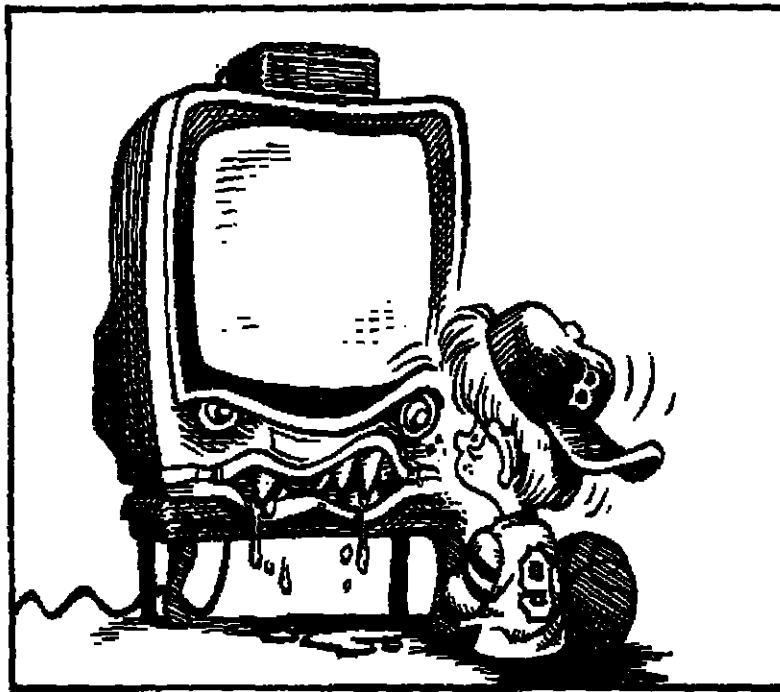
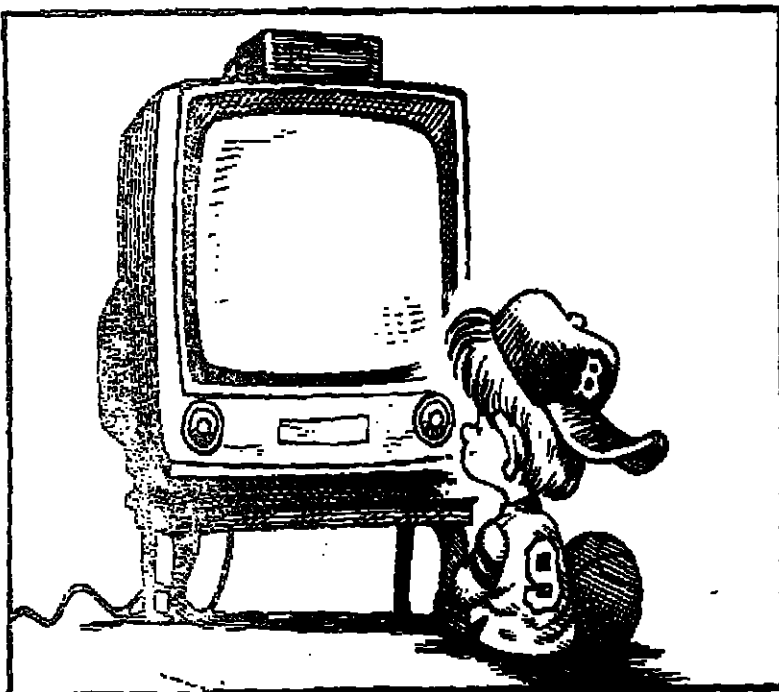
It is over the meaning of the Iran analogy that the United States and France part company. For the French, uneasy about Muslim immigrants' influence on their own society, a theocratic state so close to them is abhorrent. Many urban, secular Algerians feel the same way and are torn between their support for democracy and their fear that it will lead to a mullah-run state. For the Clinton administration, on the other hand, the crisis offers a low-risk laboratory for its more open approach toward Islamic movements.

While the United States has approved agricultural credits to Algiers and IMF efforts to fix the Algerian economy, it has also criticized the military's human rights abuses and let a leader of the Islamic Salvation Front (known by its French acronym, FIS) take up residence in the United States. The United States refuses to predict disaster should the fundis take over.

In chilly meetings with their French counterparts, U.S. officials have let it be known that they consider the Algerian military's crackdown "counterproductive" and want to see a negotiated solution. Hindsight suggests that the French think the United States is naive about "moderate" Islam, just as the Reaganites thought the French were naive about "moderate" leftists in Central America. The French may be right in both cases — in the sense that the threat of Communism essentially died out when the Soviet Union collapsed, whereas Islamic rebellion belongs to every historical epoch, pre- and post-cold war. Still, there's no denying that the tactics France's allies have used to crush the insurgency so far seem only to have stimulated it. As Francois Mitterrand's last term winds down, he has seemed somewhat more open to negotiation. When FIS and other opposition groups issued a cease-fire proposal in Italy last month, the French embraced it, albeit less warmly than the United States. Mitterrand later said he favored a European conference on Algeria.

That idea, however, was immediately shot down by French conservatives, who control the cabinet, who will probably supply France's next president and who are split over what to do next. For its part, Algeria's junta rejects talks out of hand. And FIS's more radical partner, the Armed Islamic Group (GIA), is doing its best to sabotage negotiations. The Italy proposal came after Algeria's nominal civilian President Liamine Zeroual had made the conciliatory gesture of letting two FIS leaders move from prison camps to house arrest. Then the GIA hijacked the Air France plane and detonated the car bomb: the military, in turn, stepped up its campaign of "eradication." Zeroual wants to hold elections this year without the Islamist parties, to which FIS has responded by threatening more war. In France and America, we may soon be debating the relevance of the Beirut analogy.

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Canadians walk on both sides of the ruler

JEFFREY ULBRICH
TORONTO

ASK a Torontonian how far it is to Montreal, and he'll tell you it's 500 kilometers. But ask about the distance to the Skydome's right-field wall and he'll say it's 375 feet.

Talk about a scorcher of a summer day with your neighbor and he'll wipe his brow and allow as how it must be about 34 degrees outside. Celsius that is. But refer to the bulge around his middle and he may acknowledge he tips the scale at 190 pounds.

It's been a generation since this nation of 27 million people officially converted to the metric system, or more accurately, adhered to the *Système International d'Unités*. Yet Canada remains curiously schizophrenic when it comes to weights and measures.

You can buy 180-centimeter skis in the sporting goods store, but it's still a 33-ounce baseball bat. There is no reason in the world that cans of Coke should contain 355 milliliters, except that size closely approximates the old 12-ounce can.

Products are labeled with metric quantities, but try asking for 500 grams of ground beef at the supermarket. Even though the butcher has a metric scale sitting on the counter, more often than not he will say: "So, you want a little more than a pound, eh?"

"This halfway stage is the worst of all possible worlds," said John Buchanan, a senior policy adviser in the Industry Ministry's Department of Consumer Affairs and the man who keeps track of things metric in Canada. "There is still a lot of resistance to it in some parts of the country."

"IT'S SILLY," said Joseph Reid, president emeritus of the Canadian Metric Association, a non-profit organization that promotes the metric system. "Our highways are metric, our temperatures are metric... but the housing and construction industry has stayed rigorously imperial."

Well, most of the housing industry. Shingles have gone metric. Try to replace a few on a house built

with the British imperial system and you'll find yourself reshingling the whole roof.

The policy to go metric was announced in 1970. Schools began teaching it shortly thereafter and the changeover began phasing in. Rules requiring pricing only in metric were to take effect in 1984, but after a wave of opposition and a court challenge, the government ordered a moratorium that remains today.

That left Canada in a weights-and-measures limbo and there seems to be little political will to press on.

Most people blame the Americans.

The US, Burma and Liberia are the only countries not officially metric. Instituting the metric system is official US policy, but widespread public opposition has stymied its introduction. The Clinton administration last year backed off plans to convert highway signs to metric after running into trouble with Congress.

Because the US is Canada's largest trading partner, it's difficult to force the issue here.

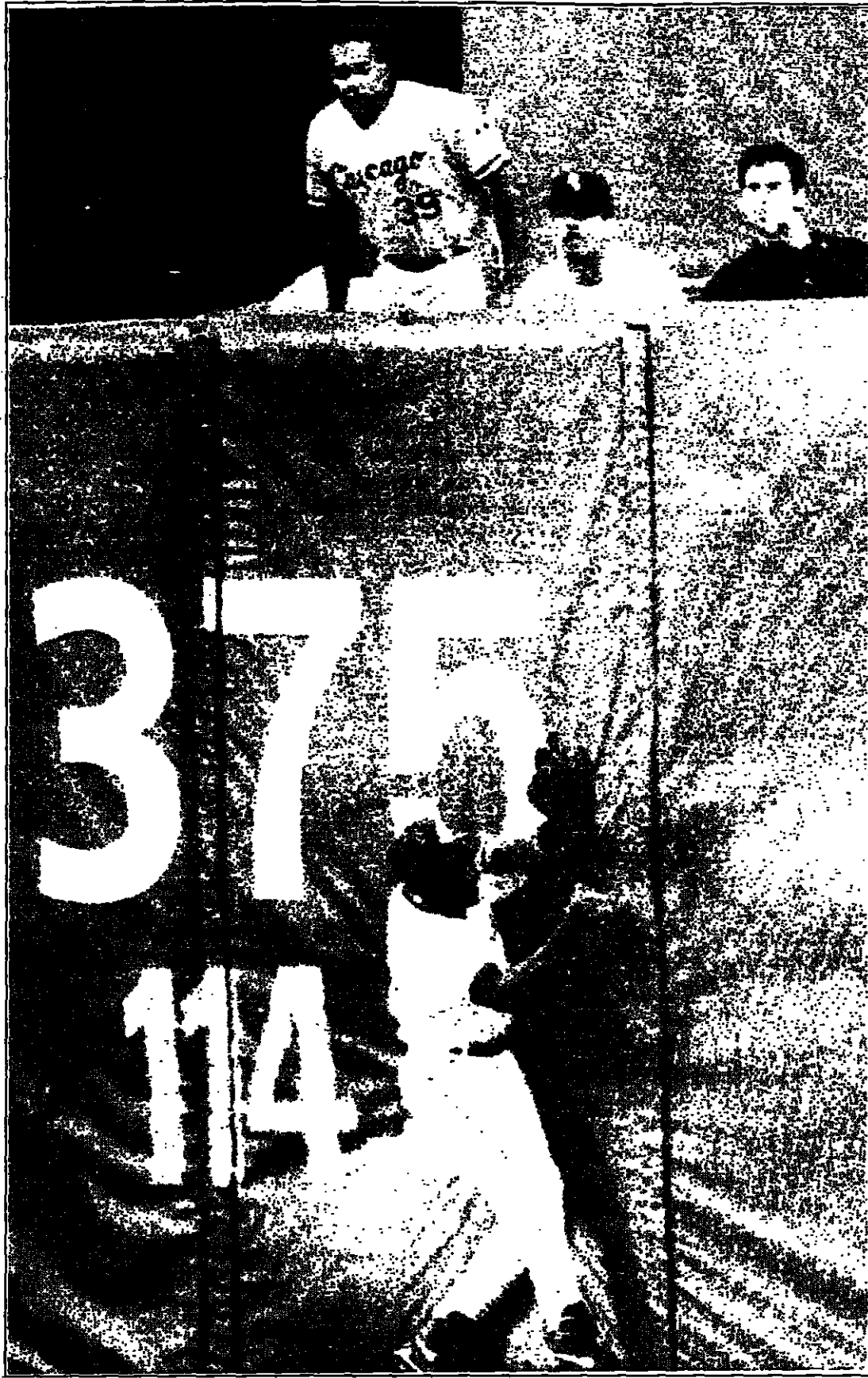
That doesn't make life any less baffling.

You can't buy 5/16-inch plywood in Canada. Thicknesses are in metric. But plywood comes in 4- by 8-foot sheets because its width and length are measured by the imperial system.

Carpet is measured in square yards; material for drapes is sold in meters. Carpets come in 9- and 12-foot widths because that is the size of North American looms. Much of the material for dresses and drapes is imported from metric countries.

MANY RETAILERS are happy with the dual system and choose the one that best disguises their prices.

Pork cannot be sold by the ounce. But the same butcher who kindly translates grams into pounds for customers still prices meat by units of 100 grams. One Canadian dollar (almost NIS 2.20) for 100 grams sounds more attractive than \$10 a kilo, or even \$4.55 a pound.



In Toronto's SkyDome, the distance from home plate is marked both in feet and meters. (AP)

However, a greengrocer would rather sell bananas for 99 cents a pound than \$2.18 a kilo. "Schrödinger goes for gasoline. Fifty-five cents a liter somehow seems less heavy on the wallet than \$2.08 a gallon, even though it still costs \$35 to \$40 to fill up no matter how you measure it.

Tradition also works against metrics.

"There was a plan to start metric football, where you had meters instead of yards and everything worked out proportionally, but obviously it never caught on," said Buchanan.

Hence, Canadian Football

League guards are still 6-foot-3 (not 190 centimeters), 265 pounds (not 120 kilograms).

A shot of Canadian Club is still 1 1/2 ounces (not 42.6 milliliters). And a McDonald's quarter-pounder is still a quarter of a pound (not 113.4 grams).

(Associated Press)

Cystic Fibrosis fund drive starts

JUDY SIEGEL-ITZKOVICH

SIXTY enzyme pills and two hour-long physiotherapy sessions a day, a high-calorie diet, antibiotic infusions at home and occasional hospitalizations - multiply this by two and you'll understand the difficult life of the Ashkenazi family in Jerusalem's East Talpott.

Their two sons - 11-year-old twins Tal and Amir - were born with cystic fibrosis.

The family's out-of-pocket expenses for physiotherapy, drugs, food, medicine and special summer camps reach into the thousands of shekels per month, only about half of which is covered by their health fund and a National Insurance Institute disability allowance for the two boys.

The Israel Cystic Fibrosis Association (ICFA), based in Ramat Gan, will tomorrow carry out its annual fund-raising campaign, along with the Lev-el-Lev (Heart-to-Heart) organization, which is devoted to the prevention of heart disease.

Pupils will knock on doors and ask for generous contributions.

The boys' mother, Michal, an unemployed kindergarten teacher, and her husband Eli (who works for Agrexco in Netanya) are very optimistic.

"We know that in around four years, gene therapy will be available to cure cystic fibrosis," she says. "The most important thing is to ensure that they are in the best physical shape and avoid damage to their lungs to benefit optimally from gene therapy."

The gene for cystic fibrosis, discovered a few years ago by a team that included Hebrew University geneticist Dr. Batsheva Kerem, is carried by one in 40

Israelis. It causes no ill effects if an individual has only a single recessive gene; but if both parents are carriers, the children have a one-in-four chance of having the disease.

The defective gene causes heavy mucus to accumulate in the bronchi of the lungs and in the pancreatic ducts. It makes breathing a difficult ordeal, constantly exposing the patient to the risk of infections and making digestion difficult.

Breathing becomes such an effort for the CF victim that he must eat double the amount of calories as another person his age so his body has enough energy.

Physiotherapy, breathing exercise and inhalation of medicated steam is needed twice daily to break up the mucus in the bronchi. The ICFA has arranged for physiotherapy students to go to the homes of patients and work at a price significantly below that of certified physiotherapists.

The discounted charge is NIS 35 per hour, compared to NIS 75 an hour by a licensed physiotherapist," says Michal. "Two sessions daily for each of our sons adds up to a lot of money. The NII disability allocation totals just NIS 2,000 a month."

The boys' disease was diagnosed at Hadassah-University Hospital on Mt. Scopus soon after their premature birth. Suffering from intestinal blockages, they were kept in the unit for three months and physiotherapy for their CF began immediately.

Thanks to their parents' dogged devotion and the ICFA's assistance, the boys were able to go to a regular kindergarten and are now doing well in fifth grade.

Dogs: Can you pinch an inch?

HEADS 'N' TAILS

D'VORA BEN SHAUL

MANY pets have adapted their lives to ours to such a degree that they are prone to suffer ailments familiar to us but almost unknown in their natural state. One of these conditions is that bane of modern humanity - obesity.

Statistics collected from veterinary surgeons in the US show that obesity and related conditions rank high on the list of chronic canine ailments. These include cardiovascular problems, kidney complications, respiratory difficulties, arthritic manifestations and diabetes.

As with humans, the cause of obesity is the ingestion of an excess of calories in relation to energy expended, although there is some evidence, as in humans, that a genetic factor may predispose the dog to becoming obese. This would explain why some breeds are more likely to put on excess weight than others.

Treatment of obesity in dogs is basically the same as for humans: a reduction in total caloric intake, best achieved by a severe reduction in fats and, to a lesser degree, carbohydrates. Of course an increase in expended energy will improve the dog's health.

A number of dog diets are especially designed for low-calorie nutrition without sacrificing vital components. These diets are ex-

cellent - consult your dog's vet for advice on which is best in the individual case. However, prepared diets are rather expensive and far beyond the means of most pensioners - the sector of the population that often has dogs in need of weight-loss diets. (Pensioners tend to feed the dog on a prepared dog kibble for convenience and price, and, in many cases, being at home more often leads to overfeeding and to giving the dog snacks of sweets and leftovers. In addition, many elderly people are not in a physical condition to give the dog sufficient exercise. The elderly also tend to keep small breeds, which are more likely to get fat.) Old age is also a factor in canine obesity.

If the purchase of a prepared diet is not feasible, the best thing to remember is to eliminate fats. Feed lean meats and fish, but not chicken skin or heads, as these are extremely high in fat. Give low-fat cheese or milk and cut out all sweet and fatty snacks. Substitute soya meal for other flours or grains and avoid commercial kibble.

If it's impossible to give the dog more outside exercise, try tempting it to chase a small ball or jump to reclaim a favorite bone or toy. A combination of these two techniques should help a dog to lose the weight necessary for good health.

Scholem: Scholar and 'religious anarchist'

THERE AND THEN
SRAYA SHAPIRO

"I am a religious anarchist," Gershom Scholem told an interviewer in 1977.

He added: "We are all anarchists, because we don't abide by a single official religious authority."

The late Professor Scholem was an authority on Jewish mysticism, a study he began rather late in life. He grew up in a thoroughly assimilated Jewish family in Germany at the beginning of the century, graduated in mathematics from a German university, and hoped to get a job as a teacher when he came to Palestine. He was offered a post as head of the Hebrew University library. The study of Kabbala began as a hobby for him.

In the same interview he burst out: "Should only one who interprets history from a religious aspect be considered Jewish? This is absurd!"

What Scholem said in seven interviews he gave between 1964 and 1982 is reproduced in *Retzif Umered - Gershom Shalom Be'omer Uv'siah* ("Continuity and Rebellion - Gershom Scholem in Speech and Dialogue"; Am Oved; 126 pp.). The interviews show an independent mind responding to questions on religion, morals and politics.

He believed in God, Scholem told one interviewer, adding that he could not understand atheists. "But I don't believe in Moses' legacy, as it reached us."

Can Orthodox and non-Orthodox Jews live together?

They can. "Not only because of a common past, but because of the common future. Although we don't know what shape this future may take. Secularism is not final."

Nor is traditional Judaism. Rabbis in the past used to impose their interpretation of religion by excommunicating dissenters. An Austrian Kaiser stopped the practice in 1870. Judaism, in Scholem's view, is "alive," changing its forms according to period and circumstances. Kabbala, the mystical quest for redemption, "does not relate to our world today."

He warned that Kabbalistic symbols are not understood by everybody, and that chauvinistic arguments among the religious and the secular will not be settled by quotes from the Kabbala or the Bible.

Scholem adopted Zionism in 1917, in war-torn Berlin. Perhaps, he conceded, Zionism does not offer an ideal solution - "but there is no alternative to it."

Zionists, he stated, "don't expect the Messiah." They have nothing in common with Shabtai Zvi, who proclaimed himself messiah 350 years ago, though some claim that Zionism is a modern version of Shabtai Zvi's movement. The Messiah, explains Scholem, heralds the end of the world - nothing exists after he arrives, while Zionism attempts to bring the Jewish entity into the historical process.

Herzl and Ahad Ha'am looked for practical means to ensure Jewish survival, says Scholem. Ahad Ha'am, with his vision of Palestine as a spiritual center of the Jewish people, appealed to Scholem.

But Rabbi Avraham Kook, who described Zionism as "the harbinger of Redemption," frightened him: "He is dangerous," Scholem said. Ben-Gurion, with his messianic overtones, angered him, as did Gush Emunim zealots. "We are not living at the close of history," said Scholem.

"Will Jews be Jews without observing mitzvot? Will they become just like any other nation?" Scholem was asked.

The reply: "History will not let us be as any ordinary nation. There is a dynamism in Judaism, without which we are doomed."

Zionism may fail, he admitted. "This depends to a large degree on the New Left. If the new generation does not stick to a Jewish identity, we all may fail." He noted that the Jewish communists had been warned that they were on the wrong path, but it didn't help.

Proud of the fact that he had come to Palestine, in 1923, of his own will, long before many of his countrymen were prompted to move by Hitler's rise to power, Scholem said: "We wanted to live among Jews, but not in a ghetto. We felt we were the advance con-



Scholem admired those who took a practical approach to Jewish survival.

tingent of the Jewish people." In their quest for "normality," Scholem argued, Jews should not

emulate the ways of other people. He castigated the Blaue Weiss youth movement because it was just an imitation of the German Wandervogel. He opposed the creation of the Jewish Legion in the British Army. Nor would Zionism thrive by joining "this or that revolutionary clique."

Under the influence of Yehuda Magnes, the president of the Hebrew University, Scholem joined the Brith Shalom group of intellectuals who hoped to elaborate terms of coexistence with the Arabs. The 1920s were a time when reasonable solutions seemed plausible.

"If the Arabs insist we should leave, I'll say: They are right - but our rights are more valid. I didn't ask Mussa Allami's permission for aliyah [Allami was one of the Arab leaders Brith Shalom met with]. As Zionists, we were ready to take up the challenge - we didn't know it would be a

military challenge. Of course, had we agreed to stop aliyah there would be peace with the Arabs - but that would mean our end."

Soon after the Six Day War, Scholem signed a declaration by seven professors urging Israel to give back the territories gained in the war. "Had 3,000 Jews settled in Hebron within three days after it was captured, nobody would have said a word," Scholem explained. "The Arabs would have done nothing."

He noted that the Arabs first appealed to the High Court of Justice 12 or 13 years afterwards. "They simply feared they would be murdered, as they expected to deal with us had they been victorious. I don't see the Arabs are ready for peace with us. I doubt moderate Israeli policies could bring peace - but that's what we must try to do. The strange dialectic of history is that it is we who implanted nationalism in the Arab consciousness."

SHMUEL DOTAN

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Uri Cohen-Mintz waits on the bench – for now

WHILE Doron Sheffer passed and shot the University of Connecticut Huskies over the Georgetown Hoyas last Tuesday night, fellow Israeli Uri Cohen-Mintz cheered from the bench.

That has been a familiar role for the 6'10" forward this season. The top-ranked Huskies are enjoying an unparalleled season. Going into last night's late game against Villanova, they boast a 20-1 record (including a perfect 13-0 in the Big East conference) and are sitting pretty at No. 1 in the country for the first time ever.

But through it all, Cohen-Mintz has played just 63 minutes and averages only 1.0 points per game.

It's not the way he envisioned things upon leaving Tel Aviv last spring to enroll at UConn following stints with Maccabi Tel Aviv's youth and advanced teams and a year with Hapoel Gvat.

"I expected to play a little more," he acknowledges at a local hotel after a team meeting to prepare for the Georgetown game.

Cohen-Mintz, 21, nervously twirls a wooden coat hanger while speaking, a shy smile periodically crossing his goatee-circled mouth.

"The team is succeeding and I'm part of the team, so I'm enjoying it," he says. "And I'm glad to be part of the team. To be No. 1 of all the university teams is a great achievement. It's an extraordinary experience."

Cohen-Mintz literally got off on the wrong foot this year.

In the team's opening game, against Lafayette in late November, he sprained an ankle. The injury caused him to miss so many practices that he began to lag behind the others.

"I fell out of the players' circle a bit, and it's difficult to return in the midst of the season to the same ability. The fact is that it's a short season. The preparations go on for a while, all summer, and before the season you work on certain elements – and then you get to the first game, and you're more or less done for the whole season."

"When I got hurt in the first game, I missed practice for about two weeks and thus it set me back. The team is doing so well, so obviously there won't be wholesale [lineup] changes."

"So it definitely has a frustrating effect because you want to play. But patience is the key word here."

That's how Coach Jim Calhoun sees Cohen-Mintz's experience so far. It's natural, he says, for freshmen to arrive with great expectations and then hit reality.

"I think it's good for Doron to have Uri here because he supports him as a friend and allows him to relax a little more, about social things probably as much as anything else," Calhoun says in an empty US Air Arena following Connecticut's thrilling 91-85 victory.

"And I think for Uri it's incredibly important to have Doron here to understand that [junior center] Travis [Knight] and some of the younger kids went through exactly what he's going through: hard days in practice, a lot of

HILLEL KUTTLER
WASHINGTON



Uri Cohen-Mintz

bumps and bruises and sometimes no playing time.

"I think he's going to be a good player by next year. But for a game like this, for example, with the strength factor, you need the strong, tough kids in there."

Sheffer says he has tried to encourage his compatriot, to help cushion Cohen-Mintz's rough start.

"It's very important to help someone from the same place, the same background. And the fact that he's here helps us both," he says.

Throughout his experience at UConn, Cohen-Mintz has found a welcome ear in Calhoun. He's also had constant encouragement from his parents, who reared him in a sports environment. His father Tanchum was a Maccabi Tel Aviv star and his mother Dafna was a tennis champion in her native Latvia.

"I liked it [basketball], otherwise I never would have gone into it," says Cohen-Mintz. "My father never once pushed me into it. It was my decision."

Once, he admits, comparisons with his famous father "really bothered me."

"There were so many expectations, comparisons. It was very tough. But I learned to live with it," he says, adding it could have been worse but at least the two didn't play the same position (Tanchum played center).

From Connecticut, Cohen-Mintz keeps in touch with his family by electronic mail every few days and occasional phone calls.

Already Dafna and Tanchum have visited their son in Storrs, Connecticut.

And there are the regular contacts he maintains with other Israelis now playing for US colleges, including Eliezer Cohen, Harel Gidat and Ayal Sayer.

Despite the basketball frustrations, Cohen-Mintz doesn't second-guess his decision to attend college away from home.

Coming to UConn is a "once-in-a-lifetime" experience, he states. He's benefited from the "rare atmosphere" of college ball, where the "perfect athletes" all around are an incentive to improve. And he's also made friends on the team, like Sheffer, Knight and forward Donny Marshall.

Besides, he says, playing is only the second-most important aspect of campus life. The first is achieving good grades; a mathe-

matics major, Cohen-Mintz attained the Dean's List in his very first semester.

As the regular season heads toward its climax, Cohen-Mintz thinks the Huskies "are in a very good position" to finish first in the Big East and then press onward in the conference tournament and from there to the NCAA championship rounds.

With so much still to achieve in the next two months, it's far too early for Cohen-Mintz to consider whether he will return for his sophomore year or turn pro in Israel.

"I haven't decided and I don't want to decide. Again, the fact that I haven't played here a year is a disadvantage. I'm at the stage of my basketball [life] that it's really very important for me to play. For me personally, another year like this, not to play, doesn't enter the equation."

"You must remember that I came here because of my basketball ability, and this is the No. 1 factor for continuing here next year."

Foreman hoping for chance to take on Tyson

NEW YORK (AP) – George Foreman vs. Mike Tyson. Big George likes the sound of it, as long as ...

• Tyson gets out of jail as scheduled on March 25.

• Foreman beats Axel Schulz on April 22 in the first defense of his heavyweight championship.

• And Don King stays out of it. "I can't put up with Don King in my life," Foreman said. "I've got too many kids already."

The 46-year-old Foreman was in New York last Tuesday to officially announce his first title defense since 1974. He will fight the 26-year-old Schulz, a former East German amateur champion, at the MGM Grand Garden in Las Vegas.

"I heard Tyson was getting out of the jailhouse pretty quick, and he said if he gets out today, he'll whip George tomorrow," Foreman said. "I'd like to give him that opportunity."

"If he doesn't sign up with Don King again, it will happen before the end of the year. If I beat Axel Schulz, if Tyson gets out and if he gets away from Don King, it can happen. It would be the greatest show since P.T. and Barnum got together for their thing. But I've got to beat Axel Schulz first."

Foreman recaptured the title, becoming the oldest world heavyweight champion, last November with a 10th-round knockout of Michael Moorer, who held the WBA and IBF belts. When Tyson won the world title from Trevor Berbick in 1986 at age 20, he was the youngest world champion.

"If the youngest guy to become heavyweight champion fights me,



FIRST THINGS FIRST – World heavyweight champion George Foreman says first he'll concentrate on his fight with Axel Schulz (r), then worry about Mike Tyson.

the oldest guy, then I can prove this wasn't a fluke," Foreman said. "But if I look past Axel Schulz the way Michael Moorer looked past me, I won't get that chance."

"You see, Moorer believed everything he heard. George was old, and that's true. George was fat, and that's true. George was slow, and that's true. George can't punch, and that was a lie," Foreman said. "If you can still punch, you can still fight."

Foreman brings a record of 73-4 with 68 knockouts into the

fight, while Schulz is 21-1-1 with 10 knockouts. In his last fight, Schulz won a 10-round decision over James "Bonecrusher" Smith in Germany on September 17.

This will be Schulz's third fight in the US. He scored a 10-round decision over Kimmuel Odom in Atlantic City, N.J., in 1993 and won a 10-round decision over Jack Basting in Chicago last June 18. The rest of his fights have been in Germany.

"I think youth and endurance will speak for me in the fight,"

Schulz said. "He is, of course, a legend, but that's an incentive more than anything else. I am not in awe of him in the least."

To televise the fight, HBO paid an estimated \$9 million rights fee, the highest in network history. It's small change compared with what Foreman-Tyson could generate.

Bob Arum, who is promoting the Foreman-Schulz fight, said a Tyson bout could generate as much as \$250 million gross with \$100 million left to split among

the contestants and the promotion.

"We have offered Mike Tyson the fight for a record amount, and he's very interested," Arum said.

"The biggest fight out there for Mike Tyson is George Foreman. Tyson-Bowe is all right, but it's not momentous. If Tyson figures he can beat George Foreman, his time is now because the other guys are young and will still be around."

Foreman says he intends to fight to the end of the year, then call it quits.

Bnei Herzliya invades Yad Eliyahu in search of seventh straight win

JOEL GORDIN

AFTER the demise of Maccabi Tel Aviv against CSKA Moscow on Thursday night, European competitions are over for all Israeli basketball clubs.

However, the league goes on, and with five games left the interest is focused on which teams will join Maccabi Tel Aviv (18-2) and Maccabi Rishon LeZion (15-6) in the Final Four.

The four contenders are Bnei Herzliya (14-7), Hapoel Tel Aviv (14-7), Hapoel Holon (13-8) and Hapoel Galil Elyon (13-8), while Hapoel Eilat (12-9), Maccabi Jerusalem (11-10) and Hapoel Jerusalem (11-10) are on the outside looking in.

The central clash this week is at Yad Eliyahu between Maccabi Tel Aviv and Herzliya. Maccabi can afford to drop a game, but Herzliya stands to lose valuable ground to Hapoel Tel Aviv – which has a relatively easy game against Hapoel Haifa.

To make matters worse for Herzliya, both Holon and Galil have cakewalks – against Hapoel Gratzyn and Bnei Ramat Gan respectively.

Herzliya has the motivation to do well – and could well shock the champions. If one had to search for any club to beat Maccabi, Herzliya would be it.

Effe Birnbaum's team has won six consecutive games. John Hudson, Paul Thompson and sharpshooter Amir Katz have all played well lately, and they are backed by a strong bench – in-

cluding Rotem Ehrlich, Koren Amisha, Desi Baremore and Mickey Herman.

On the other hand, experience has shown that Maccabi Tel Aviv tends to take out its anger over a European defeat on whichever unlucky local club it meets the following week.

For Herzliya, it will be rather like meeting a wounded lion.

Other interesting games involving teams still in the playoff hunt are hosts Hapoel Jerusalem against Eilat and Maccabi Ramat Gan against visiting Maccabi Jerusalem.

Hapoel Jerusalem has struggled this year, especially since it lost playmaker Papi Turgeman to injury. It will need a mighty push from its loyal fans to defeat Eilat, always a tough nut to crack.

The surprise of the league, Maccabi Jerusalem, last week shocked Holon 101-79 and are candidates for a road win.

However, Ramat Gan should not be taken for granted. Its two Americans – JJ Eubanks and Lamont Strotters – are hot enough to light a fire over Yoram Harush's fiery Jerusalem gang.

Elsewhere, Rishon should come away from the game in the Yitz'el Valley against Hapoel Gvat with two points under its belt.

All the games (home team mentioned first): Holon v Gratzyn; Hapoel Jerusalem v Eilat; Maccabi Tel Aviv v Herzliya; Galil v Bnei Ramat Gan; Gvat v Rishon; Haifa v Hapoel Tel Aviv; Maccabi Ramat Gan v Maccabi Jerusalem.

Sparky Anderson: I won't work with replacement players

SARASOTA, Florida (AP) – Baseball's plan to use replacement players showed signs of cracking Friday when one of the game's most esteemed managers, Sparky Anderson, said he wouldn't work with them, and the Baltimore Orioles said they wouldn't play spring training games against strikebreakers.

"We've notified the commissioner's office that we are prepared to play spring training games if we are assured the other

teams will only use players with National Association contracts," Orioles general manager Roland Hemond said, referring to the minor leagues' formal name.

Orioles owner Peter Angelos, a labor lawyer, has already said he will not play regular season games with strikebreakers. Baltimore did not invite any replacement players to its training camp.

Anderson, who has managed Detroit the last 16 seasons after guiding the Cincinnati Reds for

nine years, has told the Tigers he does not want to work with replacement players.

Detroit wouldn't guarantee that he'd get his job back when the strike ends.

The 60-year-old Anderson, fourth on the managerial career victory list, joined Toronto's Cito Gaston on the sidelines. The Blue Jays told Gaston and his staff last month that they were excused from managing replacement ball.

Anderson, who also steered the Tigers to a World Series triumph in 1984, is in the final year of his contract, worth about \$1 million this season.

"My decision has nothing to do with money," Anderson was quoted on Friday by the Detroit News. "I vowed to myself long ago that when I leave this game, I will leave it with my head held high. I will not compromise my beliefs for any amount of money."

Dov Cremer captures 10km. Ein Gedi title

37-year-old Beit Yitzhak resident outlasts foreign contingent for half-marathon victory

JOEL GORDIN

NATIONAL middle distance running champion Hapoel Tel Aviv's Dov Cremer easily won the 10-kilometer race at the annual Ein Gedi Racing Festival yesterday, setting a course record of 29 minutes, 58 seconds.

Ayalah Setine, 37, of Beit Yitzhak won the half-marathon, surprising beating the overseas contestants.

The time, a course record of 1 hour four minutes five seconds, could have been better but for the poor organization which allowed streams of traffic into the track and forced the runners to dodge vehicles.

It is the third year in succession that the 28-year-old Lithuanian-born Cremer has won the 10km. race. His previous best time was 30:18 in 1992.

Cremer is the national 5,000 meter and 10,000 meter champion. He holds the national record for the marathon, but lost the title earlier this year when he did not take part in the Tiberias Marathon, which was won by Assaf Bimro.

Cremer was closely contested until the 7km. mark by Amit Neuman of Mazerkeret Batya. Then, Cremer sprinted away to a big lead, which the plucky Neuman closed toward the end to come second in 30:08. Hapoel Holon's Ayal Gur was third with a time of 31:53.

Veteran Zahava Shmueli won

the women's 10km. in 39:10, followed by Anat Golan (40:09) and Orna Bul (40:20).

In the half-marathon, last year's winner Russia's Leonid Shvetsov took an early lead, paced by Poland's Zbigniew Molak and the Moldavian two-some – Alexander Istrouhin and Antonina Andronaskey.

The foreign quintet strode in front of the two leading Israelis, Setine and Bimro – who are both Ethiopian immigrants.

However, Setine passed the visitors after a few kilometers and kept the lead till the end. Shvetsov was second in 1:05:10 and Modalsky third in 1:05:40.

Bimro was hard on their heels in fourth place.

Ukraine's Tatiana Pozdnyakova easily won the women's half-marathon in 1:20:10, followed by Moldavia's Tatyana Lednova.

The Israeli winner was Hapoel Tel Aviv's Lily Abramovsky in 1:20:50.

A record number of 830 runners took part in the two races and hundreds more in the 5km. "fun run," including a large group of roller bladers.

The races were started by deputy Education Minister Micha Goldman.

The Ein Gedi event honors the memory of Giora Ron of Kibbutz Ein Gedi, who was killed in the Lebanon War.

Young leads Limoges to another win in Europe

BRIAN FREEMAN

MICHAEL Young scored 27 points to lead Limoges to its fourth consecutive victory in the European Club Championships final pool, a 76-67 triumph over visiting Joventut Badalona.

With the win, Limoges maintains its hold on first place in Group B with one game to go.

Young, who convinced team management to allow him to continue playing in the French league as well as the championships, has been on fire lately. He scored 28 points last week in a road win over Olympiakos and 27 points the week before in a victory over Etas Pilsen in Turkey.

European Club Championships

Group A	W	L	Pts.
1. Panathinaikos	4	0	22
2. SCORPIONS	3	1	22
3. Real Madrid	2	2	21
4. CSKA Moscow	1	3	21
5. Maccabi Tel Aviv	1	3	20
6. PAOK Salonika	0	4	16
7. Olimpia Ljubljana	0	4	16
8. Jeonju Lions	0	4	17

Finalists: 79. Olympiakos Ljubljana 66 Real Madrid 65, PAOK Salonika 52, SCORPIONS 50, Etas Pilsen 48, CSKA Moscow 57, Maccabi Tel Aviv 78

Group B	W	L	Pts.
1. Limoges	4	0	22
2. Olympiakos	3	1	22
3. Etas Pilsen	2	2	21
4. Chonka Zagreb	1	3	20
5. Barcelona	1	3	20
6. Bayer Leverkusen	0	4	16
7. Joventut Badalona	0	4	17

Finalists: 79. Barcelona 76, Joventut Badalona 67, Chonka Zagreb 50, Bayer Leverkusen 74, Olympiakos 69, Bologna 64

This week on Cable TV

TODAY

CHANNEL 5

7:00 Bodies in motion 7:30 Bodies in motion 8:00 Bodies in motion 18:30 Bodies in motion 18:30 Israeli soccer 18:55 Live English league soccer: Man Utd v Leeds 19:00 Basketball highlights 19:30 Goal and a half 20:00 Bushido 20:30 College basketball 22:00 Soccer 23:30 Goal and a half 00:00 (to be announced)

EUROSPORT

9:30 Alpine skiing 11:00 Live biathlon 12:15 Live ski jumping 13:30 Men's biathlon 14:00 Live women's biathlon 15:00 Live freestyle skiing 18:30 Ski jumping 17:30 Biathlon 18:00 Alpine skiing 19:00 Horse racing 20:00 Golf 21:00 Live speed skating 17:00 Figure skating

PRIME SPORTS

6:00 Live cricket: Australia v New Zealand 7:30 WWF 8:30 Chess 9:00 Soccer 13:00 Triathlon 14:00 Golf 18:00 Cricket: Australia v New Zealand 18:00 Live motor racing: Daytona 500 23:30 Triathlon 00:30 Rugby

MONDAY FEBRUARY 20

CHANNEL 5

7:00 Bodies in motion 7:30 Bodies in motion 8:00 Bodies in motion 18:30 Bodies in motion 18:30 Goal and a half 17:00 College basketball 18:30 Soccer highlights: Man Utd v Leeds 19:30 Israeli basketball roundup 20:00 Bushido 20:30 Live Israeli basketball 22:15 English league soccer 23:15 Israeli basketball roundup 23:45

Soccer highlights: Man Utd v Leeds

EUROSPORT

9:30 Golf 10:30 Show jumping 11:30 Speed skating 12:30 Alpine skiing 14:00 Ski jumping 15:00 Brazilian league soccer 18:00 Freestyle skiing 17:00 Triathlon 18:00 Live tennis from Stuttgart 20:30 Eurosport news 21:00 Speed world 23:00 Eurogals 00:30 Bowling 1:30 Eurogolf 2:30 Eurosport news

PRIME SPORTS

6:00 Golf 7:00 Cricket: Australia v New Zealand 9:00 Motor racing: Daytona 500 13:30 Talking baseball 14:00 Golf 16:00 Tennis from San Jose 18:00 Chess championships 18:30 Baseball's greatest games 20:30 Golf 22:30 Tennis from San Jose 00:30 Motorcycling 1:30 Aerobics

TUESDAY FEBRUARY 21

CHANNEL 5

7:00 Bodies in motion 7:30 Bodies in motion 8:00 Bodies in motion 18:00 Bodies in motion 18:30 Israeli basketball roundup 17:00 (to be announced) 18:30 English league soccer 19:30 All sports 20:00 Bushido 20:30 Basketball 22:00 Brazilian soccer 23:00 (to be announced)

EUROSPORT

9:30 Eurogolf 10:30 Freestyle skiing 11:30 Tennis 13:00 Eurogals 14:30 Speed world 16:30 Eurogals 18:00 Live tennis from Stuttgart 21:30 Eurosport news 22:00 European skiing 23:00 Live boxing 1:00 Snooker 2:00 Eurosport news

PRIME SPORTS

6:00 Golf 7:00 Motorcycling 8:00 Tennis 10:00 College basketball: Dayton v Cincinnati 12:00 Tennis from San Jose 16:00 Bowling 18:00 Chess 18:30 College basketball: Dayton v Cincinnati 20:30 Bowling 22:30 Triathlon 23:30 Live cricket: India v Australia

WEDNESDAY FEB. 22

CHANNEL 5

7:00 Bodies in motion 7:30 Bodies in motion 8:00 Bodies in motion 18:00 Bodies in motion 18:30 Israeli soccer 18:55 Live English league soccer 19:30 Goal and a half 20:00 Bushido 20:30 NBA: Houston v San Antonio 22:30 Live English league soccer: Liverpool v Crystal Palace 00:00 Israeli soccer magazine

EUROSPORT

9:30 European tennis magazine 10:30 Athletics magazine 11:30 Tennis from Germany 13:00 Aerobics championships 14:00 European skiing magazine 15:00 Live freestyle skiing 16:00 Figure skating 17:00 Show jumping 18:00 Live tennis from Germany 22:30 Eurosport news 23:00 Motoring magazine 00:00 Boxing 1:00 Show jumping 2:00 Eurosport news

PRIME SPORTS

6:00 Live cricket: S. Africa v New Zealand 7:30 Chess championships 8:00 Golf 10:00 College basketball: N. Carolina v Georgia Tech 12:00 World of rugby 12:30 Show jumping 13:30 Snooker 14:00 College basketball: S. Africa v New Zealand 18:00 Cricket from India 19:00 College basketball: N. Carolina v Georgia Tech 21:00 Cricket: S. Africa v New Zealand 23:00 Show jumping 00:00 Golf 1:00 Mondial 1:30 Aerobics 2:00 International motoring magazine

Stocks close lower

WALL STREET REPORT

NEW YORK (AP) — A strong wave of technical selling hammered stocks sharply lower in late trading, moving the Dow Jones industrials farther away from the 4,000 mark.

The Dow closed with double-digit losses after hovering at slightly depressed levels all day, held back by weakness in the dollar and the bond market.

Sell programs tied to Friday's double options expiration sent the Dow down about 25 points in the last 20 minutes of trading. Sell orders flooded the market in the last minutes of trading, creating many trading imbalances.

The Dow set two consecutive all-time highs this week, closing Thursday's session at a record 3,987.32 before backing off.

Many investors hoped that the Dow could break through 4,000

as early as Friday, but the options expirations and concerns about the flagging dollar got in the way.

Decliners had a slim lead on advances on the New York Stock Exchange. Big Board volume was moderate. The Standard and Poor's 500 composite, which also reached new highs this week, receded Friday as well. Other broad market indexes were lower.

Stocks weakened early in the day in sympathy with the bonds and the dollar, even after the Commerce Department pegged the nation's December trade deficit at \$7.34 billion, narrower than analysts had expected.

But Commerce also said the deficit soared by 25.4 percent last year to \$166.29 billion, compared to a 1993 deficit of \$132.58 billion.

Dow closing in on 4,000

WALL STREET WEEK

NEW YORK (AP) — The stock market made front page news this week, as the Dow Jones industrial average set new highs and rose to within 2 points of the 4,000.

Market strategists said the buying momentum is probably strong enough to push the Dow through 4,000 soon. But few believe the blue chip index's stamina will last.

"It may get above it, but it won't stay," said John Shaughnessy, market analyst at Advest Corp. "There are enough cross currents to make me a little bit cautious."

The Dow average's advance to-

ward 4,000 came tantalizingly close. On Wednesday it reached an intraday high of slightly above 3,998 and set new closing highs on Wednesday and Thursday, closing Thursday at 3,987.32.

On Friday, the Dow retreated on technical selling and concerns about the weak dollar, closing down 33.98 at 3,953.34. That was still up 14.47 for the week.

The Standard and Poor's 500 index made three consecutive highs during the week, closing Thursday at an all-time high of 485.22 before declining 3.25 to 481.97 on Friday, up 0.51 for the week.

Some analysts warn that may be a risky strategy. "I think the underlying premise for the rally is a bit flawed," said James Soloway, market analyst at Argus Research, "namely, the expectation that interest rates are close to a peak and, in the case of bonds, have peaked."

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FTSE down 6.9

WORLD MARKET ROUNDUP

LONDON (Reuters) — UK shares ended a bewildering week nursing further losses as currency and political concerns continued to dog what should have been a buoyant market as Wall Street lifted the Dow to record highs. The FTSE 100 closed down 6.9 points at 3,044.2, resulting in a loss of 65.7 since last week.

TOKYO — Stocks reversed a

three-day losing streak to end with hefty gains at the close. But brokers are skeptical that the rise signals a new upward trend, saying the day's gains were due to a technical rebound fueled by index-linked buying and short-covering. The Nikkei average gained 239.92 points or 1.35 percent to end at 18,020.51, up 270.84 on the week.

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Missing soldier victim of apparent suicide

THE body of missing soldier Daniel Rockman was found Thursday afternoon just south of Ein Gedi. He apparently committed suicide. Publication of his death was permitted on Friday.

A police spokesman said there were no signs of foul play. Rockman's IDF-issue M-16, with which he shot himself, was found by his side, as was his backpack.

The discovery of Rockman's body in Nahal Mishmar ended a manhunt that started late Wednesday night, when it was still believed the 20-year-old Jerusalem resident might have been kidnapped by terrorists.

Based on lessons drawn from the kidnapping of Nahshon Wachsmann, police immediately launched a wide search and issued a description of Rockman, who lived in the Ramot neighborhood.

Jerusalem police chief Cmdr. Arye Amit said going public with the fact Rockman was missing may have created tremendous public anxiety, given the tragic experience of the Wachsmann case, but the move was necessary.

BILL HUTMAN



Daniel Rockman (Brian Hendler)

"We had no choice," Amit told *The Jerusalem Post*. "We would have had a difficult time gathering information on his whereabouts if his description was not announced over the radio and his picture put in newspapers."

Information obtained Thursday morning showed Rockman was not kidnapped, but had set out alone on a hiking trip in the Ein Gedi area on Tuesday morning, instead of reporting back to

his army base in Hebron, Amit said.

Rockman's body was found by members of the Ein Gedi rescue team.

A few weeks ago, his army medical profile was lowered and he was to be removed from his Nahal unit.

Several friends and neighbors of the Rockmans described Daniel as "a great guy," "always willing to help others" and "responsible."

"He was a lovely boy in every sense of the word, looks and personality," said one neighbor.

His mother, South African-born Heather Rockman, a divorcee who worked as an editor for the *Israel Journal of Medical Sciences*, raised Daniel and his older sister, 22, alone. The death announcement was withheld until Daniel's father, Haim, a tour guide, was located in the Sinai.

On Friday the Rockmans refused to talk to the press, but the house was surrounded by friends, including Daniel's friends from Peace Now, his Nahal unit, and the Givat Gonen Labor Movement High School, which he attended.



Education Minister Amnon Rubinstein meets with Islamic Movement leader Sheikh Abdullah Nimr Darwish on Thursday in Jerusalem. Rubinstein asked Darwish to help prevent Islamic fanaticism from infiltrating Israeli Arab schools. (Kfir Meir)

'Israeli Moslems moving toward violence'

DOUGLAS DAVIS
LONDON

THE General Security Service has warned Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin that Israel's Islamic Movement is moving inexorably towards violence, the London-based newsletter *Foreign Report* said.

In what is described as a "top-secret report" prepared after the Beit Lid attack, the GSS is also said to have warned that the long-term aim of the movement, despite its peaceful stance so far, is the destruction of Israel.

At the same time, the GSS reportedly informed Rabin that the Islamic Movement, sensing its growing strength among Israeli Arabs, is likely to reverse its previous position of refusing to participate in Israeli elections.

If the Islamists do field a list of

candidates in next year's election, they could win five or six seats, the GSS says.

A shift towards violence would represent a major departure for the movement, whose leader, Sheikh Abdullah Nimr Darwish, has publicly eschewed violence, adhered to the law and confined himself to conventional political activity at a local level.

The Islamic Movement has followed the model established by Hizbullah in Lebanon, building grass-roots political support on the basis of effective welfare and education networks.

In Umm el-Fahm, for example, where the Islamic Movement controls the municipality, 15 free kindergartens, mostly attached to mosques, have been established.

The GSS reportedly suggested to Rabin that the government attempt to blunt the impact of the movement by pouring money into improving public services for Israeli Arabs.

Education Minister Amnon Rubinstein met with Darwish and Umm el-Fahm Mayor Raid Salah in Jerusalem on Thursday to discuss the issue of extremist ele-

ments infiltrating Israeli Arab schools, which has been raised in the media and in the Knesset.

Darwish denied that any illegal activities were taking place in the schools. His movement, he said, "observes the law, because it is the minorities who need the protection of the law and thus it is in our interest to observe and respect it."

Rubinstein told his guests that Israel expected Islamic leaders to "condemn any crime committed in the name of religion, just as we did in the case of Baruch Goldstein [who committed the Machpelah Cave massacre]... The many acts of terror by Moslem extremists must elicit condemnations from you along the same line of thinking."

ACRI slams conditions at Russian Compound lock-up

BILL HUTMAN

SMALL four-bed cells sometimes house up to 50 Palestinians being held for illegally entering Israel, according to a report on Jerusalem's Russian Compound lock-up by the Association for Civil Rights in Israel.

The building is dilapidated, inside and out.

"In summer, the air is stifling, while in winter, there are leaks and dampness," and in many cells there is not enough light to

read, the report states.

ACRI presented the report to Police Minister Moshe Shahal, demanding that the lockup be transferred to another building. For several years, human rights groups have demanded conditions there be improved.

Dep. Cmdr. David Ben-Yair, responsible for the lockup, said that some of the changes ACRI

recommended had been made.

In a written reply to the report, Ben-Yair also said: "There were several objective points that can't be improved because of the character of the building."

He was referring to the fact that the present complex is located in a British Mandate-era building protected by historic preservation codes. ACRI maintains this is a major reason the lockup must be moved.

Researcher: 92% of cystic fibrosis cases in Israelis can be spotted

JUDY SIEGEL

NINETY-TWO percent of all the genetic defects that cause cystic fibrosis (CF) in Israeli Jews can be identified, since only 14 versions of the gene have been found in local carriers and victims of the disease, compared to 500 varieties identified worldwide.

According to Dr. Batsheva Kerem, a Hebrew University geneticist who made the revelation and a member of the scientific team that first identified the CF gene a few years ago, Jews have lived in relative isolation, thereby reducing genetic mixing.

But even here, where only 14 variations have been noted, the situation is complex, because each ethnic group has different mutations. Among Tunisian Jews, all the mutations have been

found, compared to 95 percent of those in Ashkenazi Jews and 90% in Georgian Jews; none has been found among Yemenite Jews, Kerem said.

In those ethnic groups in which at least 90% of the mutations are known, carriers can be identified with a simple blood test and by amniocentesis of the fetus in pregnant women. Kerem disclosed that CF research has linked infertility in some men to defects in the gene linked to CF.

Schoolchildren around the country will knock on doors tomorrow to collect money for the Israel Cystic Fibrosis Association and the Lev-el-Lev organization for prevention of heart disease. See feature on cystic fibrosis on Page 7.

Israel, Arabs to discuss displaced Palestinians

AMMAN (AP) — The foreign ministers of Jordan, Israel and Egypt and their Palestinian counterpart will meet here soon to discuss the fate of Palestinians displaced during the Six-Day War, a senior official said yesterday.

The meeting, tentatively set for February 26, will be the first of its kind between Israel and the Arabs. It is in accordance with the Declaration of Principles signed by Israel and the PLO in 1993.

Asem Ghosheh, head of the Department of Palestinian Affairs at the Jordanian Foreign Ministry, said Jordan had received an invitation from Israel and the Palestinian Authority

to attend the meeting.

The Declaration of Principles states that Israel and the PLO will invite the governments of Egypt and Jordan to coordination talks on the fate of the displaced persons. It does not say the host country has to issue the invitations.

The meeting will discuss "the mechanism of the return of 700,000 Palestinians registered in Jordan's records as those displaced during the 1967 war," Ghosheh said.

The United Nations Relief and Works Agency estimates the number of displaced Palestinians living in Jordan, Egypt, Syria and

Lebanon at 865,000.

The number does not include Arabs who left their homes in 1948. They are also classified as refugees, and Israel and the PLO will discuss their future in the final status negotiations.

"The Amman meeting will discuss the criteria for being classified as displaced and also the categories that would have priority for repatriation," Ghosheh said.

Ghosheh said the final date for the meeting will be announced when Foreign Minister Abdul-Karim Kabariti returns home from Washington.

Jordan, Palestinians draft list for duty-free trade

AMMAN (AP) — Jordanian and Palestinian officials have finalized a list of goods that can be traded free of customs duties between the kingdom and the Palestinian autonomous areas, a Jordanian official said yesterday.

The accord, expected to be formalized after the trade ministers of the two sides meet later this month, is the first detailed pact reached after Jordan and the Palestinians concluded a framework

for cooperation last month.

The January 26 accord, signed by Prime Minister Zeid Bin Shaker and Palestinian Liberation Organization Chairman Yasser Arafat, called for detailed agreements on cooperation in various sectors.

The Jordanian-Palestinian trade agreement earlier this week disassociates Palestinian trade from that of Jordan.

Most Palestinian products,

which over the past 27 years bore a Jordanian certificate of origin, will now be classified as Palestinian, said Shawkhi Hadadin, assistant undersecretary at the Jordanian Ministry of Trade and Industry.

Hadadin told the Associated Press that Jordan and the Palestinian Authority were aiming for eventual free trade.

"The Jordanian and Palestinian trade ministers will meet at

the end of February to finalize the agreement, which is aimed at creating free trade between the kingdom and the self-rule area," said Hadadin. He declined to specify the goods included in the list.

"The criterion that governs our trade relations with the Palestinian Authority is total duty-free trade, but as a preliminary step we will restrict the scope of the goods," Hadadin said.

CIS Jews in NY chosen for project aimed at lowering welfare

MARILYN HENRY
NEW YORK

JEWS from the former Soviet Union are going to be the test of a state plan designed to get refugees off welfare and into jobs — any jobs.

Under a pilot program designed to create a "seamless system," refugees in New York City will fall under the domain of a single resettlement agency for up to two years. The agency's task will be to funnel people into the work force as soon as possible.

No one is suggesting that immigrants are abusing the current system. Rather, said Mark Lewis, head of the Bureau of Refugee and Immigrant Affairs at the

New York State Department of Social Services, "they have par-taken of the system," often turning down jobs in favor of going to school. "That's not the approach of refugee resettlement," he said.

The program is not specifically aimed at Jews from the former Soviet Union, but they make up 90 percent of the city's refugees, according to the state agency.

Refugees now confront a fragmented system. During their first four months in New York, they

get financial aid as well as employment and language training through voluntary resettlement agencies. Most refugees then turn to the public assistance rolls. On average, refugees in New York get some form of public assistance for about 15 months.

The state plan would turn over the public assistance funding directly to the resettlement agencies, which would be responsible for tending to the refugees' needs.

The pilot program comes as the US is grappling with the stunning costs of its general welfare system and as lawmakers are proposing cuts in all kinds of programs.

While Lewis was sympathetic to refugees' desires to hold out for good jobs, he said, "you're going to have to work your way up the ladder, and your first job isn't going to be middle class."

He added that there will be "post-employment" assistance to help refugees enhance their skills and to qualify for better jobs.

The program will go into effect in late summer.

Ministry ordered to defend Israel Festival budget cut

HELEN KAYE

THE Ministry of Science and the Arts has 15 days to show why it cut funding of NIS 1.3 million to the Israel Festival, and may not effect the proposed cut until that time, High Court Justice Elihu Mazza ruled on Thursday.

"The Ministry has also been ordered to set up a meeting to discuss the matter as soon as possible," said Israel Festival general manager Yossi Talgan. "We decided to petition the High Court because all our requests for clarification from the ministry never

received a formal reply."

Other than notification of the cut from the Jerusalem Municipality, "everything that we've learned has come through the media or via rumors," he added.

The petition named as respondents Minister Shulamit Aloni, Arts Authority head Yossi Frost, and the ministry funding committee. It stated that the decision to

make cuts contravened funding committee practices as set down by law, that Aloni had at no time consulted with festival officials, and that the ministry's contention that the Jerusalem Municipality could make up the deficit had no basis in fact.

The petition also stated that cutting budgets from only three institutions, rather than across

the board, is discriminatory. The NIS 1.3m. in government funding represents a third of the festival's budget.

The petition went on to say that as a result of the cut, the festival will have to pay some NIS 4m. in contract penalties.

The NIS 1.3m. is part of an NIS 10.75m. funding cut imposed by the ministry on the festival, the New Israel Opera (NIS 9m.) and the Haifa Film and Children's Theater festivals (NIS 450,000).

NEWS IN BRIEF

Ra'anana man killed in fire

The charred body of Eli Fargun, 35, of Ra'anana was found Friday afternoon in the city, after what police said was an accidental fire. Fargun's body was found near the caravan in which he lived. He had been involved in an ongoing dispute with local officials about obtaining a license for the riding stable he wanted to set up in the city.

Products containing gluten to be marked

The Knesset last week passed a law requiring all food products containing gluten to be so marked.

The law is the initiative of MK Yoram Lass and is intended to help those with Celiac's Disease, a sensitivity to gluten.

Gluten is found in all wheat and grain products. Many foods contain some gluten in the form of flour used as a thickener. The law will considerably help Celiac sufferers, who until now have had to rely on reading the fine print on the ingredients.

Tel Aviv sidewalk brawl injures two

A policeman and another man were injured in a brawl early yesterday morning on Kaplan Street in Tel Aviv.

The brawl erupted when passengers in a car from Taiba objected to complaints by pedestrians about the dangerous way the driver of the car was driving.

Several of the passengers got out of the car and exchanged blows with passersby. Police were called to the scene and one of the policemen was hit in the face trying to break up the fight. Both he and one of the passengers were taken to the hospital.

The four others in the car were arrested, and are to be charged with aggravated assault.

MDA sanctions continue

Tel Aviv-area Magen David Adom workers continued their sanctions on Shabbat, putting a few ambulances out of commission.

They are protesting the removal of assistant medics in the ambulances due to financial constraints. There were no provisions for funding MDA in the National Health Law and its budget is not set.

US concerned over N. Korea-Iran missile cooperation

DAVID MAKOVSKY

THE US will raise the issue of North Korea's cooperation with Iran in developing the Nodong surface-to-surface missile during upcoming talks with North Korea in Beijing, sources quote a senior US official as saying during a two-day visit here.

The official, Robert Gallucci, chief negotiator in nuclear talks with North Korea, sought to assure Israel that Washington is concerned over the North Korean-Iranian missile cooperation.

Gallucci held talks with Foreign Ministry officials on Wednesday, the day after his talks with Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and Defense Ministry officials.

Some Israeli senior officials have privately complained that the US has neglected the missile issue, due to its preoccupation with North Korea's nuclear program.

Gallucci is currently on an international tour, seeking to raise money for an international fund that is part of the US nuclear accord with North Korea. Washington has promised to arrange for financing and construction to overhaul North Korea's nuclear reactors.

The accord was reached last October, after the US charged that North Korea intended to produce nuclear weapons. The total cost of converting North Korea's nuclear program is expected to exceed \$4 billion.

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